Governor signs bonding package

Governor M. Jodi Rell came to WCSU in November to sign into law a bond package that provides nearly a billion dollars for the Connecticut State University System (CSUS), including more than $90 million for a new Visual and Performing Arts Instructional Center at WestConn.

"If there is a crown jewel in this bonding bill, it is the program that will continue the glorious transformation of higher education in Connecticut," Rell said. "That transformation began with 'UConnect' and continues today with CSUS 2020. Over the next 10 years we are dedicating nearly $1 billion to remake the CSUs."

CSUS Chancellor Dr. David Panciere, CSUS Trustee Andrew Schmotter and SCSU President Norton at the signing.

Amy Chua, the provocative author who argues that diversity has helped the United States dominate the world, will discuss the state of U.S. power, federal immigration policy and her own experience as a second-generation immigrant when she speaks on March 25 at Western Connecticut State University.

Chua’s latest book is “Day of Empire: How Hyperpowers Rise to Global Dominance — and Why They Fall.” A hyperpower, Chua says, is the rare government that has amassed enough military, intellectual and cultural might to dominate the entire world. The United States is the latest hyperpower, but the list includes ancient Rome, the Persian Empire, the Tang Dynasty of China, and Genghis Khan’s Mongols.

One trait that allows a government to achieve hyperpower status, Chua says, is tolerance and incorporation of ethnic and racial minorities. Although previous hyperpowers were often brutal, they did welcome conquered peoples into facets of government — particularly the military — which allowed the regime to build overwhelming might and conquer more lands.

“Every hyperpower in history rose to global dominance through tolerance,” Chua said. “I don’t mean tolerance in the modern human rights sense. Rather, I mean lots of different kinds of people live, participate, prosper and rise in your society regardless of race, ethnicity or nationality. In order to dominate the world, a society has to be at the cutting edge of the world’s technological, economic and military frontier. At any given point in history, the world’s most valuable human capital is never going to be found within any one ethnic group or within any one religion. So to pull away from your rivals on a global scale, you’ve got to be able to pull in the best and brightest from the world.”

Conversely, hyperpowers in history have all fallen when they became more insular and intolerant toward other races and ethnicities. Chua will discuss the United States as the world’s current hyperpower and the role that diversity, respect, assimilation and political strategy play in the country’s democracy.

Chua has been a member of the Yale Law School faculty since 2001. Her Chinese grandparents lived in the Philippines and owned one of the largest plastics conglomerates in the country. Her father immigrated to the United States to attend M.I.T. and earned his Ph.D. He and his wife were so poor, however, that during their first two years in this country, they could not afford to heat their apartment.

Chua will discuss her insight into the role immigrants and minority peoples in U.S. society, as well as federal immigration policy and the challenge of unrestricted immigration imposes on local communities.

Chua recently wrote in an op-ed article for The Washington Post that the United States historically has successfully incorporated immigrants into its society largely because the country has a national identity strong enough to hold together divergent communities.

But, she warned, “America’s glue can be subverted by too much tolerance. Immigration advocates are too often guilty of an unthinking political correctness that avoids hard questions about national identity and imposes no obligations on immigrants. For these well-meaning idealists,"

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Media Mentions

Below is a sampling of mentions about WestConn that appeared recently in the local media. Unless otherwise noted, the articles appeared in The News-Times.

Late 2007/Early 2008

CLASSIC THEATER

“...That transformation began with ‘UConnect’ and continues today with CSUS 2020. Over the next 10 years we are dedicating nearly $1 billion to remake the CSUs."

GOVERNOR PRAISES WESTCONN

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MEDIA MENTIONS

WCSU Women’s Soccer sets new standard

WSU Women’s Soccer sets new standard

WSUS Women’s Soccer sets new standard

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A celebration was held the fall of 2006 at WCSU Child Care Center’s 10th anniversary. However, the groundwork toward this accomplishment began before the opening of the center in 1997. “By the time we opened, we were the only one of the four CMSs to not have a child care center,” said Maureen Gernet, director of the Child Care Center Development Center and chairwoman of the Child Care Center Board. “It was a grassroots effort with staff and people from the community coming together to make the center viable.”

The center initially was created to provide affordable child care assistance for the university community, particularly students with children. The center has helped make it easier for students to continue their education because they do not have to worry about their kids,” Gernet said.

It also has been used as an educational laboratory by various departments, including social work and psychology, providing a lab school for WCSU students.

“This is something the center’s director, Arlene Salvador, would like to expand upon. ‘We want to become inclusive of children from birth to kindergarten,’ she said. ‘By doing this we’ll be able to continue our education because they do not have to worry about their kids,’ Gernet said.

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better serve as a lab school for other programs — and we would be able to serve more people.

Last year the center received a $71,000 grant from the state’s national fund for early childhood readiness centers to improve the playground, the system and educational program. We renovated the playground, replaced the carpet and we painted,” said Maureen Monaghan, a teacher who has been with the center for seven years. “We also bought educational toys to help the students’ learning.”

Aided by the National Association for the Education of Young Children and operated by Education Information Services, the center cares for 52 children between the ages of 3 and 5 throughout the year, and accommodates the changing schedules of parents utilizing the facility. “We’re very adaptable and we’re here for the community,” Monaghan said.

A story and a cookie—just a few of the fun things found at the WCSU Child Care Center.

**Civic engagement through civic education**

By Leah S. Stambler

Civic engagement among the nation’s youth has been catapulted into the forefront of curriculum concerns. Publication of the 1998 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) tests revealed a lack of proficiency in American students’ knowledge about civics and good government. Concern with the apparent out-of-control behavior of American youth has led to a reawakening of interest in having schools systematically infuse curriculum with civic education as a school responsibility.

The Connecticut Common Core of Learning (CCLC) mandates the teaching of civics and character education in the kindergarten through 12th grade classes of public schools in Connecticut. Students are expected to apply knowledge of the U.S. Constitution, how the government works, and how the decision making process works.

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**China connection**: Research in the age of globalization

By M.N. Jiang

At 7 p.m. one evening this fall, students in WestConn’s Master of Business Administration capstone marketing class gathered in Science Building Room 135 to get down to work with their classmates — who were meeting simultaneously at 7 a.m. the next day and half a world away, at Sias International University in central China.

Welcome to the age of globalization — and to the remarkable evolution of an international relationship that is opening a world of possibilities for instructional and research exchange between WestConn and Sias, a pioneering higher education institution that has grown dramatically since its founding in 1998 in Zhengzhou, capital of Henan province.

The live video-conferencing linkups between research teams in Associate Professor of Marketing Dr. Karen L. Koza’s Marketing 534 course and their partners at Sias University reflect a dynamism emerging from collaborations that has involved more than 150 students in WestConn’s Anello School of Business (ASB) and Sias University’s business program since it began during the spring semester of 2006. Students in the M.B.A. course during the fall term and Koza’s capstone undergraduate course Marketing 499, offered each spring, have established an uncommonly close research partnership with their Sias colleagues through video conferences, e-mail, discussion boards and other communication. Together they have produced case studies with teaching notes and strategic marketing plans addressing real-life decisions facing Chinese and U.S. companies engaged in the rapidly expanding Sino-American business relationship.

“Not many colleges and universities are involved in such extensive international collaborations of this kind, especially at the undergraduate level,” Koza observed.

The seeds for the WestConn-Sias relationship took root from a 2005 encounter at Harvard University between ASB Dean Dr. Allen Morton and Sias Founder and President Shawn Chen. That discussion of possibilities for institutional cooperation gave rise to the launch in spring 2006 of a series of collaborations by students in the WCSU Marketing 534 and 499 courses and undergraduate business students at Sias to develop case studies and marketing plans exploring opportunities for China’s third-largest bus manufacturer, Zhengzhou-based Yutong Bus Company, to break into the U.S. marketplace. Over the course of the next year-and-a-half, joint teams of WestConn and Sias students analyzed the U.S. transportation sector, evaluated export potential for Yutong models, and assessed a wide range of issues such as brand and country-of-origin identification, best practices, quality and cost factors, and niche target markets.

A prestigious case-writing competition sponsored by Business Week magazine and the Society for Case Research recently singled out two Yutong case studies submitted by WCSU-Sias teams for Honorable Mention recognition, among just eight award citations in the nationwide contest. The studies, each prepared by three WestConn M.B.A. students working with two students at Sias, revealed how much participants at both institutions benefited from collaboration on the Yutong project.

“Working with a live company provides a richer learning experience for the students, and growing the relationship between WCSU and Sias is important to enhancing the global dimension of the students’ learning experience,” Koza observed.

WestConn missions to China during the summers of 2006 and 2007 have taken important steps toward building the foundations for a long-term cooperative relationship with Sias in coming years. President James W. Schmidt, Morton, Koza and Logistics Management Officer William Hawkins paid a ground-breaking visit to Zhengzhou in July 2006. Schmidt joined Chen in signing a memorandum of agreement and understanding that committed the two institutions to explore means to strengthen collaboration through the development of joint curriculum and research projects and the promotion of student and faculty exchanges.

Last July, Morton and Koza were joined in their return trip to Sias by Professor of Marketing Dr. Ronald Drozdzenko, co-director with Koza of the WCSU Center for Business Research (CBR), and Donna Coelho, CBR coordinator of international relations. The students noted three students from Koza’s spring 2007 Marketing 499 class participated in the mission to join their Sias counterparts in a major presentation of their research findings and strategic marketing plans. Coelho led a group of five learning executives of the Yutong Bus Company. Their plan identified the tour bus and shuttle bus niches in the U.S. transportation...
WestConn wins grant to increase ‘underrepresented’ population

by Paul Steinmetz

WestConn has been chosen by the Nellie Mae Education Foundation to participate in Project Compass, the foundation’s new multi-year initiative aimed at increasing the number of underrepresented populations graduating with four-year degrees. WCSU will be awarded an initial grant of $100,000 to support a year of planning and capacity building.

WestConn is one of six New England universities chosen for the grant. “Our effectiveness in educating students from underrepresented groups should be measured by their academic success, not just by access to our curriculum,” said WCSU President James W. Schmotter. “Project Compass will enable us to partner even more purposefully with local community organizations to achieve this goal.”

WCSU will define initiatives to increase access, improve retention and support academic success for its Latino/Hispanic student cohort, primarily first-generation students from low-income backgrounds. Project Impact (Improving Minority Paths to Achievement through Community Transformation) takes a student-focused approach to broad-based community transformation with a project team that includes academic and student life campus leaders, and representatives from local schools and community organizations.

The initiative is being launched at a time when college retention is a major higher education issue, especially for low-income students and students who are now the fastest-growing segments of New England’s population. Project Compass will support innovative institutional programs and strategies that strive to eliminate retention gaps and significantly increase academic success, retention and graduation rates for minority and low-income undergraduate students.

“With Project Compass, we’re aligning with the Foundation’s long-standing commitment to college success for underrepresented students,” said Nellie Mae Education President and CEO Nicholas Donohue. “We’re excited to work with Western Connecticut State and hope that, in doing so, we’ll help inspire and nurture the type of bold thinking around postsecondary education that will be necessary if we want to ensure that the majority of all learners acquire the skills needed to succeed in the 21st century.”

The new initiative will be administered by the New England Resource Center for Higher Education (NERCHE) at the University of Massachusetts-Boston. It will create a learning community of colleges and universities that aims to achieve measurable improvement in academic outcomes for underrepresented students, while at the same time changing institutional policies and practices to sustain and expand those efforts.

“NERCHE looks forward to working with these six campuses to shape institutional responses that increase the retention and academic success of underrepresented students,” said John Saltmarsh, director of NERCHE. “The Foundation’s investment in Project Compass is critically important for exploring and creating effective models for institutional change.”

The initiative will serve students from various populations who are currently underrepresented on New England college campuses: first-generation immigrant students in Connecticut to Native American populations in northern Maine; from urban students of color, to rural low-income learners. The colleges will work to identify challenges to academic success for these populations in order to help students persist and graduate.

The other five public colleges from around New England chosen to join the initiative are: Eastern Connecticut State University; Bridgewater State College in Massachusetts, Lyndon State College in Vermont, the University of Massachusetts-Boston, and the University of Maine at Presque Isle.

The initiative will be organized around two phases. The first phase will fund the chosen six institutions for a planning and capacity building year. During the second phase, the Foundation will award up to four years of annual implementation grants of $150,000 to $200,000 each.

The second-phase grants are contingent upon the institutions’ yearly progress on objectives developed during the planning year.

The Nellie Mae Education Foundation is the largest philanthropist in New England that examines critical educational opportunity issues. Since it was established, the Foundation has distributed nearly $72 million in grants. Currently, the Foundation is reorienting its program investments. It will continue to focus its grantmaking on strategies that support underserved learners while building knowledge about how to dramatically improve outcomes for the majority of New England’s learners.

That might lead to visiting professorships for SOTA members.

The April symposium is expected to bring 100 African American doctoral recipients and candidates to campus. Dr. David G. Carter, chancellor of the University of Connecticut System, will speak at the gathering. Attendees will tour WestConn and learn about the university’s mission and strategic plan.

“I reached out to them because it was a good idea,” Samuel said. “I think of it as ripples in a pond that spread out from the center. I want to give them an opportunity to increase their knowledge about WCSU. If we show them information about our institution, you’re bound to see some return to our institution. The return might not be immediate. But it’s a ripple.”

For more information, call the Office of Multicultural Affairs at (203) 837-6279.

Partnership promotes affirmative action

by Paul Steinmetz

To energize the affirmative action process during searches for faculty, Dr. Bryan Samuel, director of multicultural affairs, is taking a new approach.

Instead of relying only on advertising in publications aimed at minorities who might be looking for work, Samuel and WCSU are partnering with an organization of African American women in higher education, the Sisters of the (SOTA), for several days in November to plan the group’s inaugural research symposium, which will be held at the university April 10 – 13. During that meeting, WCSU Provost Dr. Linda Rinker held discussions that might lead to visiting professorships for SOTA members.

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For more information, call the Office of Multicultural Affairs at (203) 837-6279.
When Associate Professor of Communication Khalida Logan-Eaton succumbed to cancer last March, a stunning sense of loss swept the university community and all those who had known her. Only 59 at the time of her death, Logan-Eaton already had accomplished more than most can aspire to in a lifetime twice as long — yet left behind so much unfilled promise.

Not only a professor at WestConn, Logan-Eaton also was an alumna, adding a WCSU Bachelor of Arts in media communications, cum laude, to the Bachelor of Science in biology/pro-med that she had obtained previously at Adelphi University. She subsequently went on to receive a Master of Arts in media ecology and a Master of Fine Arts in dance, both at New York University (NYU).

In addition to her duties as an associate professor of communication at WestConn, Logan-Eaton also was a principal dancer with the Nicholas de Garleque company in New York, and mentored the WCSU Dance Team.

But for those who knew and loved her, Logan-Eaton was so much more than a scholar, a teacher and a dancer. Khalida was simply the most amazing person I have ever known,” said her husband, Michael Eaton. “I believe that she was a true angel in every sense of the word. She gave more than just guidance and wisdom to her students. The way she treated people and looked at the world, you couldn’t help but want to be a better person.

She could light up even the darkest room by just walking in. Eaton continued. “The amount of joy she showed was only eclipsed by the size of her heart. She was a true inspiration to everyone who knew her.

Eaton said in seeking to find a way to share a piece of his wife’s life with those who loved her — and even those who never had the privilege to make her acquaintance — he seized upon how inspiring others found her. That’s why he and other family members created the Khalida Logan Inspiration Scholarship at WestConn.

The annual scholarship will be awarded to a WestConn student who “embodies the compassion, spirit and drive that Professor Khalida Logan displayed throughout her life.”

Criteria for the scholarship include a concentration in media communications, dance or education with a 3.5 minimum grade point average and financial need.

Applicants will be asked to read a biography about Logan-Eaton and respond in a 1,000-word essay to one of two questions: “How do you feel I would carry on the legacy of achievements accomplished by Professor Logan in my area of study?” or “Where do I see myself in 5-10 years in my chosen profession?” Eaton is quick to share many heartwarming stories of how his wife’s smile and loving ways impacted those she encountered, and his hope that the scholarship will enable Logan-Eaton’s legacy to continue to make others’ lives better, “one person and one moment at a time.”

Logan-Eaton’s sister, Debbie Griffith, said that while the loss of her younger sister is “just too bottomless,” one of the most profound things she took away was her sister’s celebration of knowledge. “As a passionate educator, Khalida challenged her students not to just study for the sake of passing a test, but to actually commit to learning whatever subject material was being taught and strive to master it in order to have the reward of a ‘celebration of knowledge,’” Griffith said.

“Her true touched many lives, which is why we want her legacy to continue. This will keep her passion alive.”

The Khalida Logan Inspiration Scholarship,” was held before a full house in Ives Concert Hall in October. A memorial foundation also has been established in Logan-Eaton’s name to fund scholarships at WestConn and WCSU. The website is www.khalidalogan.org.

For more information, call the Office of Institutional Advancement at (203) 837-8298.

United Nations visit offers intrigue, insight

by Shari Filli

One of the most rewarding moments for WestConn students visiting the United Nations this fall came about because they and their leader — the nominally staid and solemn Friar Mike Lasky of the Newman Center — were willing to engage in a slight deception.

The members of the group found themselves near an enclave where a ceremony was about to be held to ring the U.N. Peace Bell. They took the initiative.

“We weren’t supposed to get into that, but we walked like we knew what we were doing,” Lasky said. “The only non-U.N. people there were us and the Roots and Shoots people from WCSU.” (The Roots and Shoots group had been invited.) It was the type of serendipity that Lasky, a veteran of several U.N. pilgrimages, has come to expect as students venture to New York to examine the harshness and sublime promise of life in the world’s capital.

U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, psychiatrist and WCSU supporter Dr. Jane Goodall, and Nobel laureate Elle Wiesel all spoke at the ceremony.

“Elie Wiesel was absolutely amazing,” Lasky said. “He talked about Romeo and Juliet and how what we’re taught in school is a lie. We’re told it’s a tragic love story. It’s not a love story, it’s a terrible story about how parents don’t get along and their kids suffer as a result. He said we need to think higher and feel deeper.”

That message resonated later when the students visited Central Park and stopped at the statues of Shakespeare, Robert Burns and Walt Whitman. Wearing T-shirts that bore the words “The Roots and Shoots, Love, Peace,” they recited verse and prose (Romeo and Juliet at Shakespeare’s statue) and then wrote their own poems.

They also took part in a video conference with other youth from the Congo, Sudan and Lebanon.

WestConn student Mercedes DeMasi, an anthropology/social policy major, asked a representative from Sudan whether, if young people who donate to that country can be certain the money goes to people in need, instead of government officials.

The Sudanese said theft of donations “is a difficulty,” but recommended American donors should make sure to send money through groups that have a good reputation for operating honestly in Sudan.

Students also heard from a teen-age volunteer from Chile, who was only 11 years old when she founded a nonprofit charity to benefit an orphanage in her home country. The charity is still going strong and the young organizer has plans to expand it.

“It was a real example to our students,” Lasky said. “If you want to make a difference, don’t just sit around, do something!”

Lasky has led several groups of 10 to 20 students, faculty and staff to the U.N. over the past couple of years. The first trip was one of the original projects supported by the President’s Initiatives Fund. The Newman Club and the Program Activities Council now finance the trips, which Lasky coordinates through the Franciscans International.


For more information, call the Newman Center at (203) 744-5846.
WestConn, WTNH honor Dr. Mel Goldstein at scholarship event

There is no such thing as too much diversity. The right thing for the United States to do — and the best way to keep Americans in favor of immigration — is to take national identity seriously while maintaining our heritage as a land of opportunity. U.S. immigration policy should be tolerant but also tough. Chua will speak at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 25, in Room 125 of the Science Building on the Midtown campus. The talk will be free and open to the public. Copies of “Day of Empire” will be available for purchase following the lecture.

Chua, the John M. Duff, Jr. Professor of Law, joined Yale Law School after teaching at Duke, Columbia, Stanford and New York University. Her expertise is in the areas of contracts, law and development, international business transactions, and law and globalization. She received Yale Law School’s Distinguished Teaching Award in 2005.


For more information, call the Office of University Relations at (203) 837-8486 or the Office of the President at (203) 837-8754.
Justice and Law Division boasts two 2007 ‘Investigators of the Year’: one a faculty member, the other an alumnus

In August 2007, Terrence Dwyer retired from the New York State Police (NYSPP) after 22 highly decorated years on the job. The awards and honors he amassed included 14 NYSPP Troop Commander’s Letters of Commendation, four NYSPP Superintendents’ Letters of Commendation, a NYSPP Superintendent’s Award, citations from the New York State Senate and Assembly and New York State Senate, and several other commendations and appreciation awards. During his career as an investigator, Dwyer was involved in a number of high-profile organized crime and homicide cases in Manhattan, Dutchess and Westchester counties. His work on one of those cases — the Partners-N-Crime drug gang — resulted in Dwyer’s receipt last November of an Investigator of the Year award from the Federal Law Enforcement Foundation.

That’s a pretty impressive resume for anyone in law enforcement, but that’s only half of Dwyer’s story. He’s also a principal partner in the Poughkeepsie, N.Y., law firm Jordan & Dwyer, and is admitted to practice in Connecticut and New York. He also joined WestConn’s Division of Justice and Law Administration (JLA) as an assistant professor teaching criminal procedural law, real estate law, family law, and a course about wills, trusts and estates.

Dwyer’s been an adjunct instructor at other institutions, but at WestConn he’s on a tenure-track. “I like teaching,” Dwyer said. “I don’t find it boring at all. I miss the excitement of the 5 a.m. call, but in reality police work is 98 percent sheer boredom and 2 percent sheer terror. I can teach my students both the theoretical and real-world scenarios so they can understand the variables and the nuances in the law.”

JLA Chairman Dr. Michael Foley said Dwyer’s extensive — and impressive — background in law enforcement is one of the reasons WestConn has “the finest criminal justice program in this area.”

“One of the strengths of JLA is that our faculty has such an enormous amount of practical experience in their fields,” Foley said. “It’s a great accomplishment to see how well our graduates and faculty are doing.”

It seems WestConn had quite a presence at the Waldorf Astoria award ceremony that day — another recipient of an Investigator of the Year Award was New Jersey State Police Officer and JLA alumnus Aaron Auciata.

For more information, call the Division of Justice and Law Administration at (203) 837-8400.

Student research methodology awards

Since 1989, the Certificate of Excellence in Research Methodology has been an internal-to-the-department award given to students who demonstrate superior motivation, persistence and discipline in Dr. Marjorie Callaghan’s course. “I can’t find many other demanding courses at JLA 400 Research Methodology in Justice and Law Administration.”

This course is focused on helping the students to become: (1) literate and critical analyzers of the practitioner-oriented experimental design literature in the social science portion of the criminal justice/public administration fields (including statistical interpretation) and (2) practiced in the technical writing of research through a sequential series of technical writing exercises. The recipients of the Certificate of Excellence in Research Methodology in Justice and Law Administration for the fall semester are: Deborah Abrams and Stephanie Paulson.

For more information, call Machell at (203) 837-8486.

Vaden-Goad, Volpe receive Governor’s Service Awards at December ceremony

Dr. Richard Bassett Assistant Professor of MSL Awarded Tenure.

Dr. John R. Coleman Assistant Professor of Management Awarded Tenure.

Dr. Neil Drwonok Promoted to Associate Professor, Management.

Dr. Karen L. Koza Promoted to Associate Professor, Marketing.

School of Visual and Performing Arts

Dr. Marjorie Callaghan Associate Professor, Music and Music Education Awarded Tenure.

Elizabeth L. Popiel Associate Professor, Theatre Arts Awarded Tenure.

School of Professional Studies

Dr. Karen M. Daley Associate Professor, Nursing Awarded Tenure.

Eileen Patricia Geraci Promoted to Professor of Nursing.

The Connecticut State University System (CSUS) honored Assistant Professor of Biological and Environmental Sciences Dr. Ruth Gyure with both a university-level Trustees Teaching Award as a WestConn faculty member, and a system-wide Trustees Teaching Award for which she was selected from a field that included university-level winners from Central, Eastern and Southern Connecticut state universities. It is the first time this award has been conferred by the CSUS Board of Trustees (BOT).

Dr. Shouhsia Qi received a university-level Trustees Research Award at the central university level. CSUS BOT Chairman Lawrence D. McHugh said, “The quality of teaching and level of research throughout the university system is truly remarkable, and the scholarship by these faculty members is both inspiring and significant.”

If you have an announcement about a recent appointment to a board, award or other professional accomplishment you’d like to share, please e-mail pr@wconncsu.edu.

Evelyn Patricia Geraci Promoted to Professor of Nursing.

Assistant Professor of Justice and Law Administration Terrence Dwyer was named a 2007 ‘Investigator of the Year’ by the Federal Law Enforcement Foundation in November.

On weekdays, Associate Professor of Theatre Arts Elizabeth Popiel usually can be found in her studio designing sets for WestConn’s theatre arts productions. On weekends Popiel’s still designing sets, but she’s doing it in New York where she works as the set designer/art director for “Good Morning America.”

She has worked for ABC on and off since 1993, but when “Weekend Edition” was launched in 2004, that’s where she ended up. She maintains the regular sets and also designs the backgrounds for special segments, such as the kitchen necessary when Chef Emeril Lagasse appears.

Evelyn Patricia Geraci Promoted to Professor of Nursing.

The following faculty are promoted or awarded tenure.

School of Arts and Sciences

Dr. Carina A. Bandhauer Associate Professor, Social Sciences Awarded Tenure.

Dr. Michael Chappell Promoted to Associate Professor of English.

The Certificate of Excellence in Research Methodology has been conferred by the CSUS BOT Chairman Lawrence D. McHugh said, “The quality of teaching and level of research throughout the university system is truly remarkable, and the scholarship by these faculty members is both inspiring and significant.”

If you have an announcement about a recent appointment to a board, award or other professional accomplishment you’d like to share, please e-mail pr@wconncsu.edu.

Elizabeth L. Popiel Associate Professor, Theatre Arts Awarded Tenure.

School of Professional Studies

Dr. Karen M. Daley Associate Professor, Nursing Awarded Tenure.

Eileen Patricia Geraci Promoted to Professor of Nursing.

Assistant Professor of Theatre Arts Elizabeth Popiel, on the set of "Good Morning America."
sector as the most promising opportunities for market entry. “We toured Yutong, and the students presented their 120-case report,” Coelho said. “This was like preparing a thesis, and it has been gratifying to learn that Yutong has been making some of its practices and its Web site based on what our students recommended.”

Morton and Chen marked another milestone in the WCSU-Bus relationship during the July 2007 mission when they signed an agreement establishing a formal affiliation between CIB and Yutong, newly founded.

Transnational Business Research Center: The agreement will provide the way for future research collaboration and exchange visits with faculty and students of the two institutions. Members of the WCSU delegation participated in ceremonies marking the opening of the Sias Business Research Center, and spoke before a packed auditorium about the principles and practices of business education and research in the United States.
Inside this issue:

Amy Chua, the provocative author who argues that diversity has helped the United States dominate the world, will discuss the state of U.S. power, federal immigration policy and her own experience as a second-generation immigrant when she speaks on March 25 at WestConn.