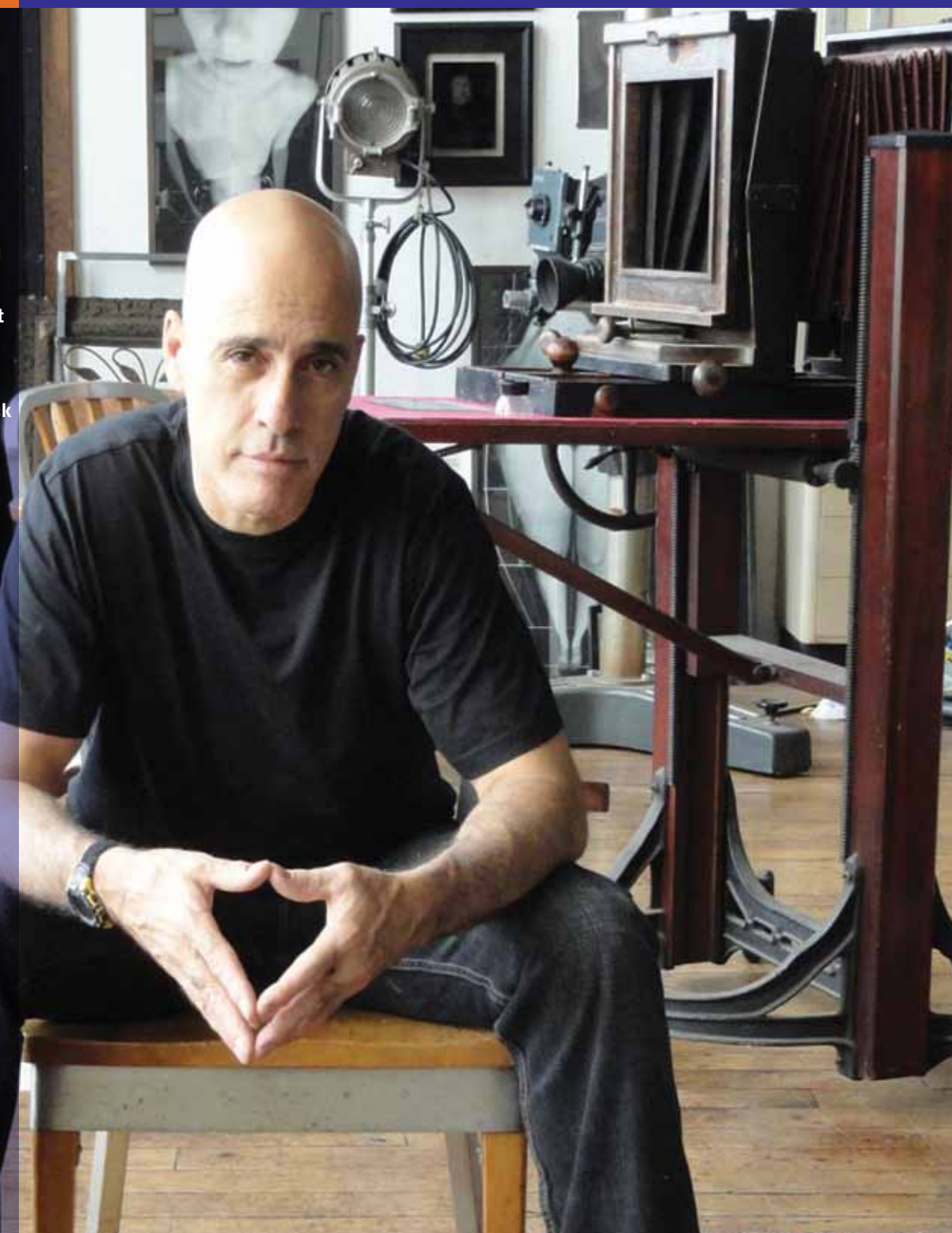


# UB Knightlines

## Out of the Box

For more than 40 years, Thomas Mezzanotte has taken breathtaking photographs with cameras dating back to the Civil War and equipment made from cardboard boxes. Just named "Artist of the Year" by the Fairfield Arts Council, UB's maverick photography alum suddenly finds himself in everybody's focus.



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ALSO INSIDE Remembering Manute Bol • Patching Up the Bluefish • UB's Poet Laureate

# President's Line

Dear Friends:

As I walk through campus on these beautiful fall days, it gives me great pleasure to see so many familiar faces—upper-classmen, professors, and staff—and also the hundreds of new students who these days crowd the PedMall. More than 5,100 students from 80 nations have chosen UB as the place where they will enrich their minds, pursue their dreams, and forge friendships that will last a lifetime. Together, we make UB a truly vibrant and exciting community.



Neil Albert Salonen

The beginning of every academic year brings excitement, but in 2010-2011 we have several new initiatives and programs to celebrate. The Physician Assistant Institute and the Pre-Pharmacy partnership with the University of Connecticut have added energy to the already-lively Health Sciences Division. Even before their courses began, these two new programs had a waiting list of eager applicants. Students at the Shintaro Akatsu School of Design (SASD) will be opening a storefront in downtown Bridgeport, providing local businesses and individuals the opportunity to commission graphic design projects that will benefit the local business community as well as providing invaluable experience for our students.

The University launched its redesigned Web site and portal just a few weeks ago, along with a new site devoted to our athletics programs ([www.ubknights.com](http://www.ubknights.com)) together with our new athletics logo. In development for many months, the new UB online sites have been reorganized to enhance communication among students, staff, and faculty and to refresh our presentation to prospective students surfing for colleges to attend. Enhanced links to online giving sites, reunion sites, and alumni news are coming soon, and the new site showcases UB's myriad activities in an appealing and accessible format. I urge you to visit us at [www.bridgeport.edu](http://www.bridgeport.edu) to see for yourself.

This issue of *Knightlines* holds several stories of our students' and faculty members' unique achievements. We are proud of UB student Francisco Eguiguren, who headed up the United Nations Annual Youth Assembly, and of Professor Jim Lehman, Chiropractor to the local Bluefish baseball team. This summer, distinguished poet Dick Allen, former Charles A. Dana Professor of English, was named Poet Laureate of Connecticut. And of course we will never forget one of our most famous alumni: Manute Bol, whom we lost this year.

The University of Bridgeport fosters a special sense of community, where diversity of experience and opinion are encouraged and respected. Campus friendships bridge the divides of nationality and culture and make us all global citizens. Looking forward to another successful year, I welcome everyone, new and veteran, to UB.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Neil Albert Salonen". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Neil Albert Salonen  
President

President  
Neil Albert Salonen

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Knightlines is published three times a year for University of Bridgeport alumni and friends by the Office of University Relations.



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## School Days, School Days, Dear Old Golden Rule Days



Meems Ellenberg

There is nothing quite like the sense of memory that a new school year elicits. The crack of opening a blank notebook, the smell of freshly sharpened pencils, the special click of the keys of a new laptop: it's September and that means Back To School!

I know that all of our alumni and friends join me and the entire UB community in welcoming the Class of 2014 to the University. The Student Government Welcoming Committee has been hard at work, organizing meet-and-greets, barbecues, beach trips, and help centers for the incoming freshmen. With bright purple and white banners and million-dollar smiles, our student ambassadors are the best public relations crew anyone could imagine.

No matter what the differences are between the freshmen of 2010 and the freshmen of past years, the fundamental experience is still the same. The exhilaration of receiving that longed-for acceptance letter, followed by a dizzying amount of forms and paperwork, deciding what to pack, wrangling with parents about what—or what not—to buy, and finally, arriving on campus, saying goodbye to family, and then the sinking realization that this is going to be a year like no other. “Am I ready to do the course work? Did I really pick the right major? Will I get along with my roommate? How will I find my way around? Will anybody like me? What am I doing here?”

For many of our students, there is an even larger question: “How am I going to pay for this?” For close to 70% of UB students, the question is very real. Balancing classes, studying, research projects, and term papers with the demands of a part-time job or internship is daunting. More students than ever before need financial aid, and more of it. The University of Bridgeport is committed to providing as much help as possible to as many students as possible so that they can complete their degrees without interruption. It is a sad and bitter truth that all too frequently, when students take a break from school to earn enough money to come back, many do not, or cannot, return.

For many alumni of the University of Bridgeport, I know that this scenario resonates. Your own college years may have included the same balancing act of work, school, and a patchwork of grants, scholarships, and loans. I hope that you want to assist the students of today by contributing to UB's Annual Fund, which helps support the areas where need is the greatest. In recent years, the need for scholarship funds has been significant. You may make an unrestricted gift, allowing UB to apply your generous gift to the most pressing needs, or you may restrict your gift to a particular school, division, or program. I am asking you to remember your first days at UB and the excitement you felt and translate that into a gift for in support of the hopes, dreams, and goals of the enthusiastic young people who are at the University of Bridgeport now.

OK, so maybe your memories don't include the clicking of the keys of a laptop. But you can certainly click the keys of your computer at home and make your gift to UB online. I am available to help you structure your gift in a way that is meaningful to you. Please call me at 203-576-4542 or e-mail me at [mellenbc@bridgeport.edu](mailto:mellenbc@bridgeport.edu). I look forward to speaking with you, and I know that you join me in wishing great things for all the students at the University of Bridgeport.

Meems Ellenberg  
Director of Annual and Planned Giving

# Pipelines

## A WWII vet and his bride look back

Dear Editor,

My husband Charles and I were delighted to receive the colorful Centennial Graduation Issue of *Knightlines* (Summer 2010). The University has blossomed into such a rich and varied enterprise since our early years there.

The picture in the '47 *Wistarian* featured on page 9 illustrated the lovely tree-shaded campus and the stately old homes that had been converted into the Junior College of Connecticut and were our introduction to campus life. There was a large trellis in the middle of the campus that was the framework for a huge Wistaria vine that was covered with blossoms—the theme for our annual coronation of a Wistaria Queen and her Court, the festivities around the occasion.

The picture soon changed for the freshman who arrived just after the end of WWII with the influx of many veterans who arrived in the fall of 1946. The transformation of the campus was exciting and demanding on the whole student body. Reflecting on those days, we are reminded of the work involved for that determined group of administrators and faculty, who handled what must have been almost-overwhelming demands to both convert to a four-year university and to move the whole university to its present outstanding location. We don't think our sons, who have undergraduate and postgraduate degrees from six large universities, can say they experienced the unusual circumstances we experienced as students!

To read of the many outstanding accomplishments of the diverse and talented students now attending the University is a joy.

There have been so many stories of distinguished graduates that it would be hard to single them out, but it gives us great pride in the University.

**Charles and Jeanie Stern**  
'49, '47  
Chapel Hill, NC

## Faith music

Dear Editor,

Leslie Geary's splendid article "Faith Music" (Summer 2010) brought back many fond and indelibly etched memories.

The photo of room 110, with Music Director Frank Martignetti leading the Chamber Singers, reminded me of my years in Concert Choir and Civic Orchestra. We rehearsed in the same space, under the tutelage of such distinguished professors as, respectively, Robert Regan and Richard DeBaise.

Please continue to publish articles on the arts at UB. It was refreshing to see and read of the current efforts of the school and, in particular, of Mr. Martignetti and his singers, who struck a personal chord with me (pun intended).

**Anthony Procaccini '81**  
Music Director,  
Saint Patrick Church  
Bridgeport, CT

## Heralding the Golden Knights

Dear Editor,

In "Grand Finale," on page 5 of the Summer issue, there should have been nine of us 50-year graduates, but I had surgery and couldn't attend graduation ceremonies honoring the Golden Knights. (Wonder what happened to my yellow cap and gown.) I know everyone in the picture had a good time, and I am sorry I couldn't attend.

I just wanted to congratulate *Knightlines* for the best issue ever! It had something for everyone. Good job, guys! We'll see you at the next 50-year celebration. You all look wonderful. Andy Guilbert, you still look the same . . . haven't changed a bit!

**Louise Clark Baker**  
Newtown, CT



## Champion gymnasts

Dear Editor,

I thought you might find this photo a kick—the *grandmothers* of the current UB ECAC gymnastics champs featured in the Summer issue! This might be the first UB team. We were coached by Joe Toth and used to do some Sunday practices with the Southern Connecticut team.

I'm the big one, first on the right, and my roommate is the fourth from the right, Sue Carbonetti.

**Linda Fritsche Castner '69**  
Pittstown, NJ

## General musings

Dear Editor,

*Knightlines* arrived today. It looks very substantial. As a board member, I have seen a steady development of the magazine. You have done a good job re-connecting to the alumni of all ages and including both historical and contemporary information.

Congratulations!

**Gordon L. Anderson**  
St. Paul, MN

*Knightlines welcomes your letters! Please note that they may be edited for length, clarity, style, or accuracy. Send them to Letters to the Editor, Knightlines, Cortright Hall, 219 Park Avenue, Bridgeport, CT 06604 or knightlines@bridgeport.edu. Please be sure to include your full name, contact information, and class year (if applicable).*



For Dr. James Lehman ...  
Baseball



When Dr. James Lehman says baseball is in the bones, he means it. But when other fans get excited about the crack of the bat meeting the ball, Lehman is more thrilled at the crack of a player's back when it meets his hands.

# is in the Bones

By Mike Patrick



Lehman, associate professor of clinical sciences at UB's College of Chiropractic Medicine, is team chiropractor for the Bridgeport Bluefish, a popular Minor League team, whose stadium is just a few blocks from campus.

It's a relationship forged through Lehman's love of baseball and his desire to give his students hands-on experience in chiropractic.

"The agreement I have is I volunteer to service the team as long as they permit students do sports-medicine rotations," Lehman said. "What they have is total coverage for chiropractic service, providing they allow the students to participate."

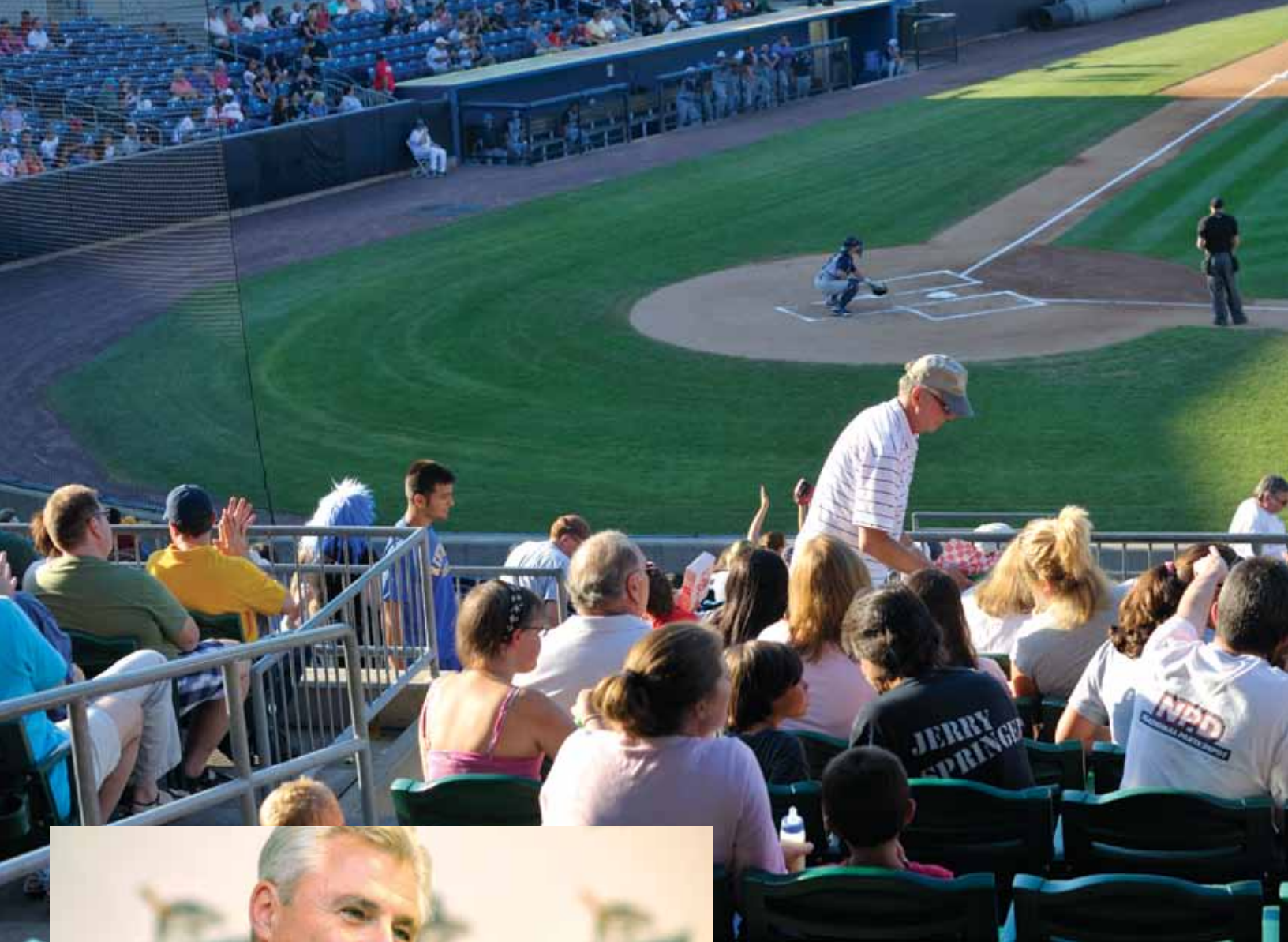
UB's degree in chiropractic is a four-year doctoral program and requires four years of undergraduate education. During the fourth year of chiropractic training, those with an interest in sports medicine are invited to apply for the Bridgeport Bluefish opportunity. Eight of the 20 students interested in pursuing careers in sports medicine were chosen to work with the team this past season.

"The value to the student has to do with gaining additional clinical experience, and the uniqueness is it's a sports-medicine rotation with a local professional baseball team," Lehman said.

*(continued on page 6)*



Bluefish mascot "B.B." cheers on the hometown fans.



**School of Chiropractic's Dr. James Lehman keeps the Bluefish competition-ready before the games begin at Harbor Yard.**

“There’s a difference in the way a professional athlete responds to care than a patient who is overweight, deconditioned, diabetic or sick. A professional athlete is very, very in tune with how their body should function.”

Lehman said he and the students work together to do examinations of the players, looking for postural and spinal issues and muscle injuries. They’ll then perform spinal manipulations, soft-tissue treatments, and even advise the players about general health and wellness issues. One of the most frequent is dehydration, which can lead to muscle tightness and pain.

### **The crash**

It was Lehman’s love of the game—and a back injury that derailed his high school sports career—that drew him to baseball chiropractic.

Lehman was 14 when he was a passenger in a car that hit a telephone pole.

“It affected my ability to run without pain for about three years,” he said. “Finally, someone suggested I see a chiropractor, and within two treatments the problem was resolved.”

While the injury put a damper on his high school athletics, the chiropractic cure meant he could join the game again in college. In fact, he even went on to play shortstop on a semi-pro team in Canada called Alba, the same name as the city where it played.

“I’m a die-hard St. Louis Cardinals fan, and all of my kids played a lot of baseball,” said Lehman, whose three sons and daughter are all grown. “I’ve always had a real liking for the game. It would be, I guess, my favorite sport.”





## A Home Away from Home (Plate)

By Mike Patrick

The successful partnership that Dr. James Lehman forged between the School of Chiropractic and the Bridgeport Bluefish Minor League baseball team was not done overnight. In fact, the team wasn't tremendously interested at first.

"The discussion started with the previous general manager three years ago. I told him of my interest in baseball and asked if they had a team chiropractor," he said. "He said it wasn't possible that year, but that they were starting a new program called Family Host."

That program, in which members of the community invite a player to stay at their home for the season, is a baseball fan's dream. And Lehman is a baseball fan—and a big one.

Even before Lehman came on board as chiropractor to the Bluefish, and then arranged for students to spend clinical hours with the team, Lehman's hosted a number of players in his home, including team members from as far away as the Dominican Republic.

But cast aside those visions of Lehman leisurely playing catch with a ballplayer in his back yard.

"While a lot of people think that must be cool, the reality is they have a very busy schedule," he said, adding many people think the only time ballplayers work is when they're on the field during a game. Actually, most of their time is taken up by training and practice. Add a 15-inning overtime game to the schedule and he might not expect a player to come home until past midnight. They'll sleep until noon, have lunch, then go back to the ballpark.

"This is a serious business for these guys. They all want to make it back to the major leagues," Lehman said. "Every once in awhile, if they have an off day, we'll watch a game or get a pizza."

The Family Host program has one thing in common with the chiropractic service Lehman provides the team: It saves the players money.

"It gives you a more relaxed feeling when you're away from home," said catcher Tom Pennino of Long Island, New York, whose staying at the Lehman home this season. "It's expensive, especially for the guys who don't make as much."

Minor League baseball doesn't traditionally pay well. When Lehman opens his home to a player and provides chiropractic service, that player then doesn't have to spend the better part of his paycheck on a hotel and a personal chiropractor.

So, he's right at home in the Bluefish training room, which has many of the accoutrements you might expect: weights, exercise equipment, tremendous containers of Gatorade. Lehman's therapy table is less anticipated, and for many of the players, Lehman's services were a first.

"The first year I noticed a lot of players were not so excited about having chiropractic done," he said. "There was a time period for the players to gain some trust."

Once they did, they soon found Lehman and his cadre of chiropractors-in-training could help them feel better, and even improve their game.

"Most often they have strains and sprains, muscle spasms and biomedical issues like a twisted pelvis," he said. "One player had a stiff neck and couldn't pitch last night because of that."

Center fielder Adam Greenburg of Guilford, Connecticut, thought he had a torn hamstring until Lehman and his student caregivers determined that tension in his upper back was the source of his pain.

*(continued on page 8)*



**Fish Fever! Even Yankees fans root for Bridgeport's home team.**

"I'm putting stress and strain on joints and ligaments that would cause problems," Greenburg said. "One of the benefits of having chiropractic care is the checking of the overall functionality of how the body works. It's a benefit and bonus for me to make sure my body is in line."

During a brief chiropractic session with Lehman, Greenburg said he "just wanted to make sure my legs and hips are all in line." He leaned against a wall, and Lehman, with his elbow, pressed against Greenburg's back, creating cracking and popping noises as bones and muscles shifted into place.

"I examined his spine for posture and function," Lehman said afterward. "I found his pelvis was tilted and had joints not moving properly. I treated his muscles to stretch normally so he could function in today's game."

### Perfect pitch

Lehman said he and the students frequently treat pitchers, whose job often casts their bones and muscles way out of alignment.

In baseball, so much attention is placed on a pitcher's arm that it's easy to forget he uses his entire body to launch the ball at the batter. The pitcher lifts his leg, turns his head, rears his whole body back, then shifts his force to his pitching arm before releasing the ball.

It's an entire workout in a few seconds.

"Pitchers really have so much trauma to their bodies from the repetitive pitching," Lehman said. "It's not natural to put your arm in this position and throw a

ball. It's a strain on the rotator cuffs, tendons and also the shoulder and neck."

Pitcher Matt Pike is at a season high for games started and innings pitched, and partially credits Lehman and his students for keeping him at the top of his game.

"It eliminates back pain, I can tell you that first hand. It prepares my body to go out there and pitch every day on a 140-game season.," Pike said. "You throw the ball over 100 times a game. It throws your body out of whack. You deal with a lot of arm, shoulder, and rotator-type injuries, overuse injuries."

And the batters need chiropractic care, too. While many people may associate batting with upper-body and arm strength, Lehman said, it's easy for the viewers of the game to overlook that the batter puts his entire body into the swing.

"The feet, ankles, knees, hips, and lower back are all used in hitting. If his back feels tight then he doesn't get his full swing," Lehman said. "He's got to contract muscles in his lower back and abdomen to create upper-body force."

For trainers, managers, and coaches, players are pieces in a well-oiled machine. They consider Lehman and his students to be preventative maintenance, keeping the Bluefish at the top of their game.

"I see the guys definitely feel more comfortable with their bodies; they feel they can go out there 100 percent without second guessing themselves," said coach Alberto Martinez. "It's a great reassurance to them having the doctors come here and work with the players."

Some even take advantage of it themselves.

"My back used to lock up all the time, especially because you got your feet in the ground," Bluefish field manager Willie Upshaw said, adding he appreciates the chiropractic service, too. "You get rid of all the tightness."

The arrangement between UB and the Bluefish has been so successful on each side that next season, Lehman plans on increasing the clinical hours students spend with the players, but decreasing the number of students, so each student could be more involved in treating the team.

"It's important that you love what you do in life," says Lehman. "I love baseball and I love chiropractic and it's a tremendous joy to combine the two to benefit the baseball players and my students." ■

UB student Francisco Eguiguren is tapped to lead 1,000 young people at the United Nations 7th Annual Youth Assembly. Their goal? Ending poverty, promoting justice, and making the world a safer, saner place for all children to live.

By Leslie Geary

# Yes, They Can!



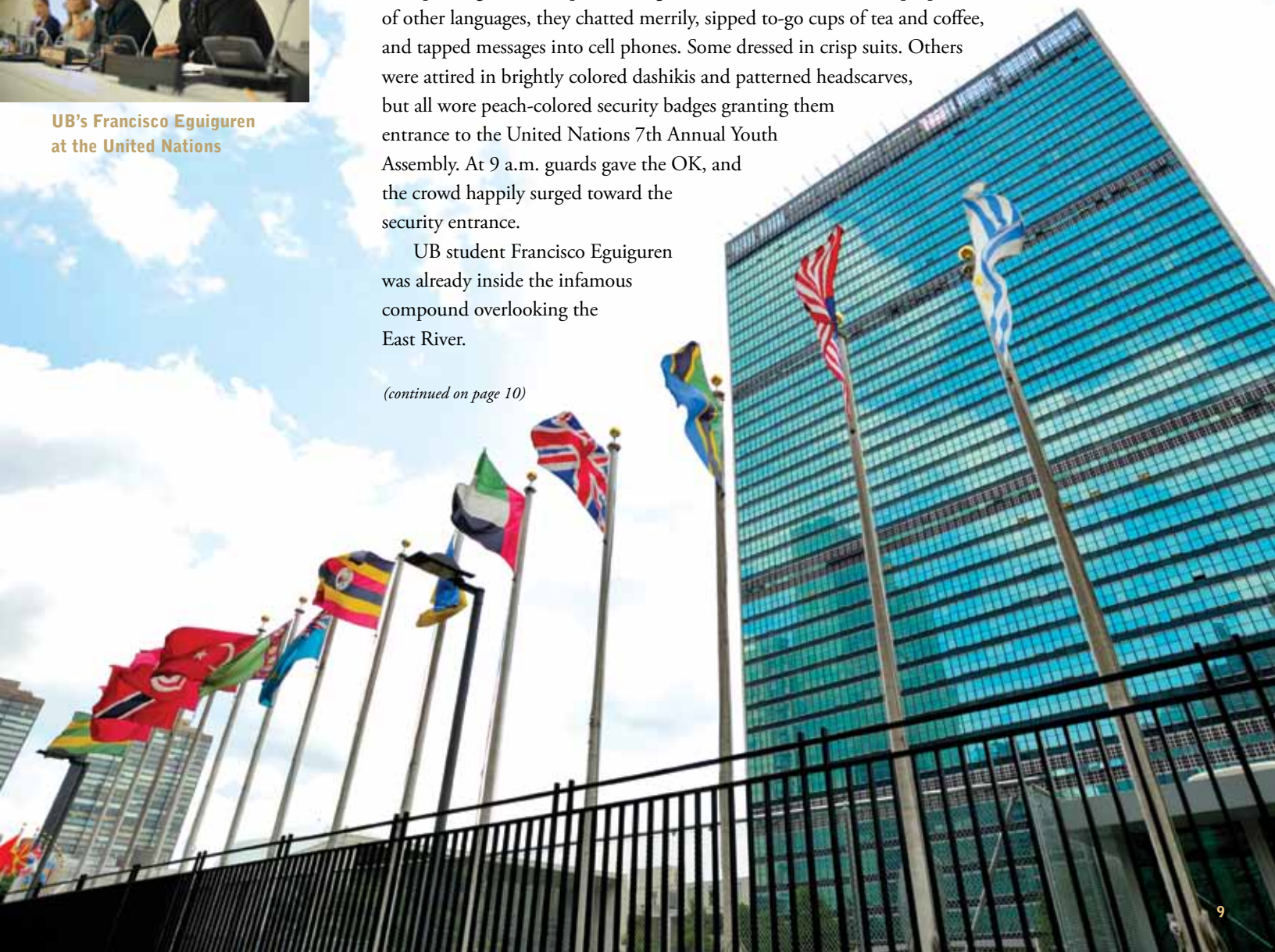
UB's Francisco Eguiguren at the United Nations

Oblivious to the already-sweltering heat on an early Friday morning in August, hundreds of young people brimmed with energy as they lined up to pass through the iron fence surrounding the United Nations on Manhattan's East Side.

Speaking French, Japanese, English, German, Swedish, and a potpourri of other languages, they chatted merrily, sipped to-go cups of tea and coffee, and tapped messages into cell phones. Some dressed in crisp suits. Others were attired in brightly colored dashikis and patterned headscarves, but all wore peach-colored security badges granting them entrance to the United Nations 7th Annual Youth Assembly. At 9 a.m. guards gave the OK, and the crowd happily surged toward the security entrance.

UB student Francisco Eguiguren was already inside the infamous compound overlooking the East River.

*(continued on page 10)*







Six months earlier he had been tapped to serve as program coordinator, the Annual Youth Assembly's top position, by its lead sponsors: the Friendship Ambassadors Foundation (FAF), a nonprofit that promotes peace through international exchange; the Permanent Mission of Finland; and the UN Department of Public Information.

A native of Ecuador who is fluent in three languages, Eguiguren, 23, had impressed Assembly sponsors during the 2010 National Model UN in March 2010, when he and fellow UB students received the Distinguished Delegation Award. He also interned at the Greenwich, CT-based FAF, where among other projects, he used his Spanish to coordinate the rebuilding of homeless shelters in San Jose, Costa Rica. His polished managerial abilities landed him the top spot at the Youth Assembly, said FAF Executive Director Patrick Sciarratta.

"Francisco came to us with the sincere desire to increase the information-sharing capacity between young people and the United Nations. He brought us great ideas for speakers, and he was on the committee to make decisions. Normally that had been done by professionals. The fact he was program coordinator attested to his seriousness of purpose," Sciarratta said. "In the past, the Assembly has been developed by professionals for younger people. Having Francisco moderate conferences—that never would have happened."

For any young person interested diplomacy, the Annual Youth Assembly is arguably one of the most important forums affecting the world's 1.2 billion young

**Above: Lining up for change: Hundreds of Youth Assembly members prepare to enter the UN on August 6, the final day of the summit.**

**Left: The desire to end poverty was a message shared and heard in all languages.**

*(continued on page 12)*



**Francisco Eguiguren chats with an Assembly participant before Ishmael Beah, author of *A Long Way Gone*, talks about surviving as a child soldier.**

people today. This year, close to 1,000 students and others between 16 and 24 received practical training, networked, met with speakers and experts, and attended workshops designed to help them develop solutions to the UN's so-called Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) of eradicating poverty in all its forms. [For more about the MDGs, see "Eight goals for a better world" on page 13.]

Months before the August 4-6 event, Eguiguren split his time on studies at the University's International College, where he is earning a Master of Arts in Global Development and Peace, and devoting his attentions to crafting a well-orchestrated menu of Youth Assembly workshops, forums, cultural presentations, and networking exchanges.

"The audience at the UN is very diverse," said Eguiguren, "and I'm convinced that there are three paths that we can take after this Youth Assembly: Use the oral and written traditions to inform people about the socio-economic injustices around the world. Be brave enough

to advocate for different projects and take the MDGs from words into action, and/or become an expert in the technicalities behind the MDGs."

Putting words into action clearly resonates with Eguiguren. And as program coordinator he was determined to identify the perfect speakers who exemplify the roles of storyteller, activist, and expert to inspire his peers.

It took months of work. But finally, on that heat-scored Friday morning, Eguiguren introduced three special guests: Ishmael Beah, whose harrowing memoir as a child soldier in Sierra Leone, *A Long Way Gone*, has shot up bestseller lists in the U.S.; Katie Spatz, who raised \$100,000 to provide safe drinking-water supplies for the poor by rowing solo across the Atlantic (at 23, she is the youngest individual to do so); and UNESCO Education Adviser Dr. Elizabeth Fordham.

As conference attendees slowly made their way through security gates, Eguiguren attended to final details inside a large conference room inside the UN's

North Lawn Building. Spotting Beah, he crossed the room to shake hands in warm welcome, pose for a quick photograph, then seated himself at a long table from which he would moderate the morning's events.

"Good morning!" Eguiguren greeted the Assembly, switching on his mic at 9:30 a.m. sharp. "We have an once-in-a-lifetime opportunity today!"

Then Beah was up, captivating everyone's attention with his story: At 12, revolutionaries attacked and murdered most of those in his village. A year later, he was taken captive by the government army, forced to fight as a child soldier in a bloody and gruesome war, and eventually made it out of Sierra Leone when UNESCO workers paid for his release. He now works to provide counseling for child soldiers so they, too, can reintegrate into society.

Spotz followed, urging young delegates to have patience as activists. Although she rowed from Senegal to Guyana in just over two months, it took two-and-a-half years to line up sponsors, train physically, ready her boat, and prepare for the detail-intensive journey. She frequently was criticized for her plans. One nine-year-old sent her an e-mail: "Bring someone else. If sharks come, they can eat him."

The crowd, awed into hushed silence for most of the morning, burst into laughter.

It was the perfect send-up for Fordham, who rattled off a dizzying array of statistics: "Since 1999, there's been a 33 percent decline in out-of-school children, but 72 million are out of school today," said Fordham. "There's still work to do."

Work, or opportunity to affect change, depending on one's perspective, Eguiguren reminded the room. "Will you be the PhD, the expert, like Dr. Elizabeth Fordham, or the storyteller like Ishmael Beah, or the activist like Katie Spotz?" he asked earnestly. "Think about who you will be!" ■



UNITED NATIONS

## Eight goals for a better world

In 2000, world leaders adopted eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) to attack various aspects of extreme poverty by 2015. Young people currently make up one-fifth of the world's population and are increasingly involved in helping meet this challenge. The Annual Youth Assembly at the United Nations, which this year was led by UB International College student Francisco Eguiguren, equips them with resources to develop solutions to achieve the following MDGs:

1. End extreme poverty and hunger.
2. Achieve universal primary education.
3. Promote gender equality and empower women.
4. Reduce child mortality.
5. Improve maternal health.
6. Combat AIDS/HIV, malaria, and other diseases.
7. Ensure environmental sustainability.
8. Develop a global partnership for development.



# One Student



## For nearly two decades, counselors at UB have made college a reality for more than 800 disadvantaged kids a year thanks to \$1.7 million program at the University of Bridgeport.

By Leslie Geary

# at a Time

Summer vacation typically means days of relaxation for students. But that wasn't the case for a group of highly motivated Bridgeport kids who hit the books at the University over the summer with the goal of graduating from high school and getting into some of the nation's top universities.

Throughout the heat-filled weeks of July and into August, in a modest classroom tucked on the second floor of South Hall, the students worked with counselors from the Educational Talent Search (ETS) program, which since 1991 has provided academic support for a whopping 800 students per year.

Talent Search is one of eight so-called TRIO

programs that were created by the federal government in the mid-1960s to provide academic and social guidance to disadvantaged kids, starting in middle school up through college. TRIO programs are run in communities and campuses nationwide.

In Bridgeport, Talent Search is run out of UB, but tutoring sessions and other programs also are held at various middle and high schools in the city. Three-quarters of the students in the program come from low-income households. And three out of four are raised by parents or other caregivers who never attended college, and are thus ill-equipped to help their children prepare for a higher education.

*(continued on page 16)*

**Left: Jaqueline Anaeto, 11, signed up for ETS to help her stay a top student. She hopes to be an engineer or chemist one day.**

**Right: Teacher Rayon Bernard works on a writing project with Imanie Davis, 12.**





**Left: UB's Marjorie Bernard has run Educational Talent Search since its founding at UB 19 years ago.**

**Right: Nathan Shaw, 12, brushes up on algebra at the ETS summer session. The honors student plans on being a lawyer.**

**Below: Study break: Jorge Alvarez, 11, and pals cool off at the Wheeler Rec pool after a day of classes.**

Even so, 88 percent of kids in Bridgeport who finish the ETS program, which runs from sixth grade through 12th grade, have gone on to college. By comparison, just 40 percent of low income kids enroll in college, according to study released in June by the Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance.

Alums call the program life-changing.

"When I was a student, I knew I wanted a better life, but I didn't know how to get there. Talent Search put me on the path," says Oneil Mitchell, who was among the first Bridgeport students to participate in ETS.

The oldest of four boys whose father had passed away, he was raised by a mom who never attended college and had newly arrived at Central High School. The 35-year-old is currently an associate director at UBS in Stamford, Connecticut, who graduated with a business degree from the University of New Haven. He's also a frequent visitor to Talent Search at UB, where he helps encourage a new generation.

"The kids who come to the program and stick with it have the determination to make it out of the inner-city and go to college," Mitchell says with confidence.

Talent Search's highly successful track record at UB and its partner schools throughout Bridgeport has enabled the University to obtain ongoing funding from the U.S. Department of Education to keep ETS going. The most recent grant, awarded in 2006, is worth \$1.7 million.

What's more, the federal education agency recently awarded \$1.1 million for UB to launch a second TRIO program starting in the fall 2010. That effort, known as the Student Support Services program, is geared to college students [see page 17].

Counselors and teachers familiar with the programs say consistency is the key to success.

"The goal is to help the kids stay prepared so when they go back to school, they're ready," says Marjorie A. Bernard, who has directed Educational Talent Search for the past 19 years.

The 20 middle-school students who worked at UB over the summer are among the larger group of 800 Bridgeport students enrolled in ETS programs during the school year. In the summer, most of their day is devoted to honing skills in algebra and creative writing, the academic core of their curriculum. They also go swimming or on field trips to museums and amusement parks—places many have never visited before.

Students like 11-year-old Jorge Alvarez arrive eager to learn.

"Last summer I stayed home and played PlayStation 3 the whole time. I had nothing to do," Alvarez said. When told that ETS had extended summer classes for middle-school students, Alvarez jumped at the chance to participate.

"I want to get better in reading and writing. I got Bs in them last year, but I want to be in the National Junior Honors Society. If I get As and Bs for three marking periods, then I'll get in," says Alvarez, who entered the seventh grade at Multicultural Magnet School this fall. "My parents want me to reach my highest goals, too, so I can get into a good college. I really want to go to Yale." ■





## A \$1.1 million grant to expand academic help on campus

By Leslie Geary

In August the U.S. Department of Education awarded a \$1.1 million Student Support Services grant to the University to provide a range of services, including tutoring and financial education, to help low-income, first-generation college students, and students with disabilities, boost their academic performance and successfully complete college.

Established in 1965, the Student Support Services (SSS) program is one of eight federal TRIO education campaigns that identify and assist students from disadvantaged backgrounds from middle school through college.

Studies have shown that low-income, first-generation college students are nearly four times more likely to leave college than peers without those risk factors. And after six years, 43 percent of low-income, first-generation students leave college without earning a degree, according to The Pell Institute.

"A good job starts with a good education, and college should be affordable and accessible to any student ready to take on the rigors and commitment of higher education," said Rep. Jim Himes, D-CT, who supported UB's SSS grant application to the U.S. Department of Education. "This grant will help meet our shared interest of providing more students with the tools they need to reach their fullest potential while helping our country become more competitive in the changing global economy."

U.S. Senators Chris Dodd, D-CT, and Joseph Lieberman, I-CT, backed the University grant application, as well.

Under the grant, UB will receive \$220,000 per year for five years, starting September 1, 2010, to help 140 undergraduate students annually who meet certain eligibility requirements.

Students will receive tutoring, guidance in selecting courses, information on how to obtain federal financial aid and other public and private scholarships, as well as assistance in completing grant and scholarship applications. They also will receive financial education to help them fully understand school loans and minimize school-related debt. The SSS program features additional workshops, lectures, career counseling, and activities to encourage students to pursue appropriate graduate and professional education.

The SSS Program is one of two TRIO programs administered by UB. The other program, Educational Talent Search, started on campus in 1991.

"This is an extremely competitive grant," said Gabrielle Jazwiecki, director of institutional grants at UB. "For schools like UB and communities like Bridgeport, it provides critical funding to address the needs of a significant portion of their populations." ■



# Poetry at UB

When Dick Allen, former Charles A. Dana Professor of English and Chairman of the English Department, was named Connecticut's Poet Laureate this summer, the honor not only affirmed Allen's superlative talent, it also shed light on poetry's important role at the University.

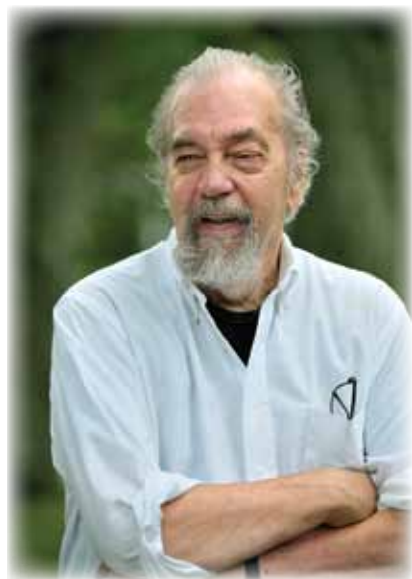
During the 1920s and '30s, when UB was still the Junior College of Connecticut, students founded the Library Society to promote poetry and literature. Society members continued to host live poetry presentations after the College officially became UB in 1947. Campus magazines *Halcion* and *Groundswell* have published student poetry for decades. And former students and alumni include such recognized poets and writers as Jeffrey Skinner, Norah Pollard, Doug Swift, and Arlene Swift Jones.

Significantly, poetry is not confined by academic discipline nor is it a pleasure enjoyed by those of a certain age. Professors from various academic departments pen verse, while today's youngest poets are nurtured at events like the Spring Poetry Slam, held each year at the Arnold Bernhard Center. As local elementary school students gather for this lively event, they join in one of the University's proudest traditions: the pleasure of giving voice to wisdom and truth best expressed in a poem.

## A conversation with Dick Allen

By Leslie Geary

# Connecticut's Poet Laureate



**As Poet Laureate Dick Allen hopes to inspire others to read, and perhaps write, more poetry.**

In his 33 years at the University, Dick Allen inspired generations of writers as the Charles A. Dana Professor of English and Director of Creative Writing. In June he was named Connecticut's Poet Laureate. The honorary position affords Allen with a state-sized classroom and abundant opportunity to illuminate the imaginations of poets and readers alike.

For Allen's fans, the honor is well-deserved.

His poetry, selected six times for *The Best American Poetry*, has appeared in *The New Yorker*, *Atlantic Monthly*, *Poetry*, *Hudson Review*, *The New Republic*, and *The New Criterion*, among other publications. He is the recipient of numerous awards, including the Robert Frost Prize, a Pushcart Prize, and fellowships from the National Endowment of the Arts and the Ingram Merrill Poetry Foundation. His most recent collection, *Present Vanishing: Poems*, received the 2009 Connecticut Book Award for Poetry.

Allen's success, one learns, is the fruit of innate talent and rigorous self-discipline. He may wait up to three years refining a poem before deeming it worthy of publication, and he spends up to 18 hours a day writing (always with a black ink pen, on draft paper attached to a clipboard he was given while teaching at the Indiana Writer's Conference 41 years ago). Allen is fiercely protective of his routine. Yet he graciously opened his

Trumbull, Connecticut, home to talk with *Knightlines* about his work, teaching, and being the state's new Grand Master of Poetry.

**Knightlines:** Connecticut named its first Poet Laureate in 1985, and the position was most recently held by John Hollander. Did you have any idea that you would be chosen, and how did you find out?

**Dick Allen:** I knew there was an outside chance but didn't really expect it. There are a lot of exceptionally good poets in Connecticut. I received a phone call, and they said, "Congratulations. An objective selection committee of poets we brought in from outside the state just met, and you've been chosen." I had to not tell anyone, though, especially my daughter, because she's engaged to a feature writer from the *Hartford Courant*. I couldn't tell her until Connecticut Commission on Culture & Tourism made its formal announcement [on June 14].

**KL:** You'll serve as Poet Laureate through 2015. How will you use the position to promote poetry?

**DA:** There are scores of accessible poets I wish people would read. I don't think most of us know who to look for, who the Connecticut poets are. One of the first things I'm very interested in doing as Poet Laureate is working with public libraries and school libraries to create poetry shelves near the "New Releases" section.



They'd be located right when you walk into the library, and have on them the latest Pulitzer Prize-winning poetry books, National Book Award and National Critics Circle poetry book winners, and a good selection of recent books by Connecticut poets. Right now, poetry is too often buried in back stacks of moldy British and American literature. If you make a small amount of quality and highly readable poetry easily available, people might start checking it out.

**KL:** When did you start writing poems?

**DA:** I was 14 years old, and my first poem was about being a Cub Scout. I grew up in upstate New York, and I was always walking about the woods with an air rifle and a canteen. I wrote about pines and clay banks of small streams and about shadows. My father [Richard Sanders Allen] was a writer. He was the world's leading authority on covered bridges. A lot of my childhood was spent going to visit covered bridges on old dirt roads. He later wrote about aviation as a researcher for the Smithsonian Institute.

**KL:** So you grew up in a writing home, and you live in one now. Your wife Lori is a poet, whose college

roommate was Joyce Carol Oates. Is that ever difficult? You hear stories of how disastrous it can be for writers to live together, the clash of creative personalities, but that doesn't seem to be the case for you. In fact, you and Lori just celebrated your 50th anniversary in August.

**DA:** Among other things, Lori is an ardent Episcopalian. On occasion all of her crosses *do* try to sneak downstairs! I fight them off with my Buddha statues [displayed throughout Allen's living room]. But, seriously, we've been married for 50 years; we're both *isolatos*. She goes upstairs to write and I go into the bedroom and write.

**KL:** Many of your UB students have become highly regarded poets and writers: Norah Pollard, Richard Fewell, Jeffrey Skinner, Cortney Davis, Doug Swift, Scott Dikkers (founder of *The Onion*), Arlene Jones, Page Coulter, Stephen Spignesi, A.L. Sirois, Amy Prodmorou . . . As a teacher you must be proud.

**DA:** Yes, very! Still, I resolved very early on in my teaching career not to fall prey to the *Good-bye Mr. Chips* Syndrome. That is, I've never needed to teach, never needed to gain my sense of self-worth from teaching.

**Mindful poet:** For Allen, Zen Buddhism refocuses his perspective of life, just like a good poem can offer a different point of view.

(continued on page 22)



## Letter to Ye Feng His Student Now in Iowa

I remember your paper on the Tao,  
How your eyes shone when you got each spelling right.  
One late afternoon we talked for hours  
Outside your dining hall, about the Korean War.  
You wore your red nylon jacket all the time  
To startle Americans, I think, although you never said so.  
Americans are so possessed by things, you told me.  
I asked, "And why do you so love your new computer?"  
You were amazed when I showed you my worn copy  
Of Mao's *Little Red Book*. You couldn't get over it.  
When you got sick, you took a long train ride  
Down to New Jersey, and an acupuncturist.  
I scoffed, but he cured you. You said, "Look!"  
And grinning, jumped up and down on the sidewalk.  
One night you gave a party and respectfully  
Listened to Bruce Springsteen as if he was classical.  
You and your guests sat quietly translating,  
Heads bowed, sipping your beers. I found that very funny.  
At graduation, you insisted on having pictures:  
*Old American Professor with a Young Chinese  
Student in Robes Beside Long Island Sound.*  
Now it has been a year. In graduate studies now,  
You wear a white lab coat and study physics far away.  
Physics are mountains to you. You ski down them.  
You love the dawning of numbers, the beautiful flourishes.  
Here, in Bridgeport, on our campus of a hundred trees,  
Xi Ling, your friend, reminds me to say, "Hello."

— Dick Allen

Ultimately, I think that made me a better professor and made my students better writers. I didn't need them to be successful, and they didn't need me. My most successful students found their own styles. I would have failed them if their work was near to a carbon copy of my own.

**KL** Is the ability to write good poetry something that can be learned in the classroom or is it an innate gift?

**DA:** I've had students like Jeffrey Skinner. He was a graduate student in psychology, and one day he came to me and said, "I think I may write poetry." So I told him to bring me five to ten pages to read. He was absolutely fantastic! Great ear! Natural talent. All I had to do with him was encourage and provide suggestions. But yes, you can teach almost anyone to write a decent poem. I'd tell my students, "Show rather than tell. Use concrete images. It's not a tree: it's a birch, it's an aspen, it's a red maple." And you have to be devastatingly and searingly and unexpectedly honest. Sometimes you have to laugh madly. Sometimes you have to lie under a fire escape and study cracks in concrete. Once you communicate those things, they start writing decent poetry.

**KL:** What has this era of text messaging done for aspiring poets? You spend months, even years, working on a single poem. It's difficult to imagine a young person devoting that kind of time to writing.

**DA:** You tell the 18- or 19-year-old, "Read *Walden*. Simplify your life." I put off getting a computer for years. Do anything to give to yourself time to write. Maybe go into teaching, for the summers off. You have to make choices. You can't use all your abilities. I had to let go of playing music and trying to paint well if I was to write poetry. People don't want to let go. It's like that Robert Frost poem "After Apple Picking": *There were ten thousand thousand fruit to touch, / Cherish in hand, lift down, and not let fall.* But, as Frost knew, you can't pick every apple.

**KL:** You've written poems about so many topics—science and astronomy, Schrödinger's cat, Sisyphus, politics, university life, Keats, Georgia O'Keefe. In terms of inspiration, do you read something, a book or newspaper article, and that turns into a poem? Your shelves are filled with books.



**DA:** I typically read ten books at a time, and an idea can germinate from something I read. Or maybe I'll hear a phrase or see an image while I'm making breakfast—that curious, backwards, tiny hand jerk you make when you crack an egg against the rim of a frying pan. In Zen, we call it “mindfulness.” I let poems happen to me. I've always been fascinated by images that just float unexpectedly into consciousness.

**KL:** Are your poems written for an audience that presumably recognizes these allusions or do you hope your poems will motivate someone to read about a subject they may not be familiar with?

**DA:** I think my poems are written to be felt and understood by anyone who's finished high school, and certainly for anyone with a college education. I'd love engineers and physicists to read my poetry, and gas station attendants, too. Too many poets write for other poets or for English majors. That's egotistical.

**KL:** Speaking of ego, you're known to be a harsh critic of the free verse Confessional Poetry [focusing on the poet's own life] that's been so dominant in our times.

**DA:** I do write free verse, but I'm mainly interested in a kind of loose formal verse. I write narrative poetry and formal poetry with rhyme, and poetry in various forms—always with a large amount of theme and subject, almost never confessional. I've waged wars against confessional, narcissistic poetry for years! I try to get former students to write about politics, hillsides, persona poems in which they assume the voice of someone else, poems about footsteps creeping up on old goats . . .

**KL:** As for your future, what's next?

**DA:** I've completed a loosely rhymed and metered adventure epic poem, *The Neykhor*, and two other themed books of poems: *The Chinese Menu Poems*, which are poems taking their inspiration from combinations of Chinese food and Chinese landscape paintings, and *The Zen Master Poems*—humorous and serious small poems written from a Zen sensibility, in which a strange Zen Master tries to instruct others about life.

I also have enough new poems—many of them published—to make two or three new books of individual poems. One will be called *God's Beatnik*, after a poem of mine published in *The Gettysburg Review*. And always, always, there are new poems I want to and need to write. And I'd like to write some duets . . . and a poem about salt mines and the Philip Johnson Glass House in New Canaan, Connecticut . . . and . . . a coyote swimming across a Cape Cod bay . . . and . . . blueberries—always blueberries, for some unknown reason. ■

## Dick Allen's Poetry Shelf

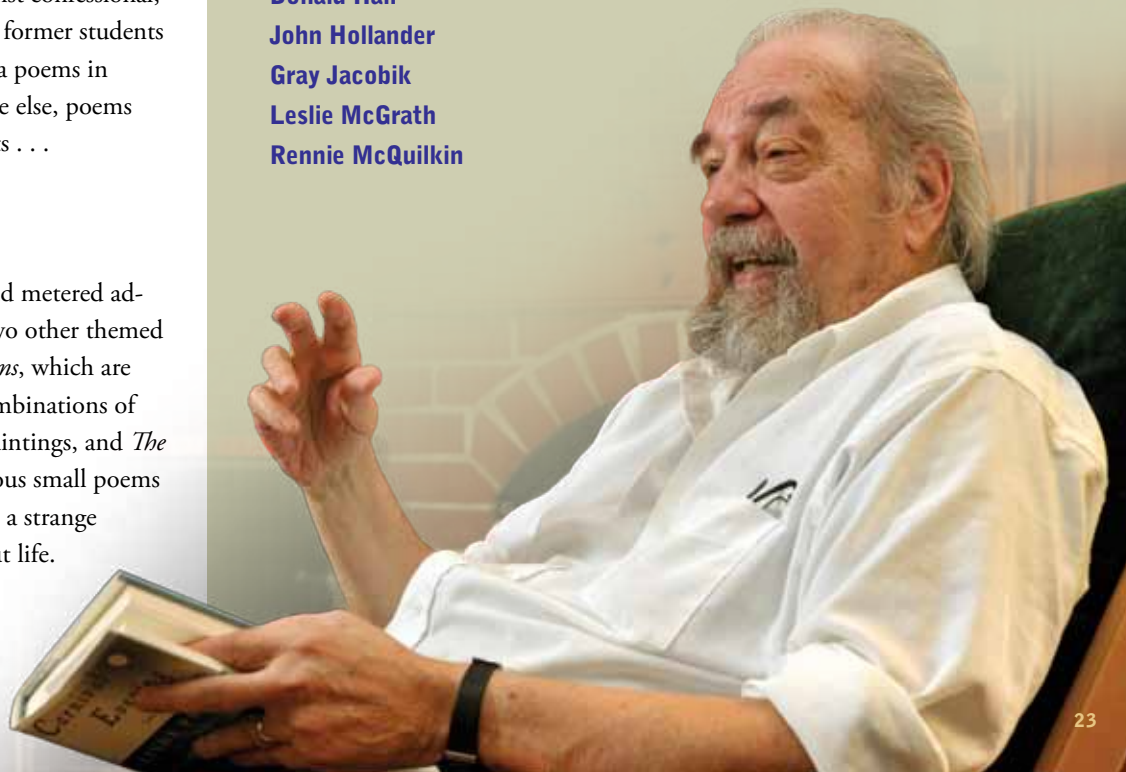
As Connecticut's Poet Laureate, Dick Allen hopes to work with libraries to create easily accessible shelves solely dedicated to poetry to encourage others to read poetry, too. You don't have to wait for your local branch to create a special collection to find a poem that you love. Below, Allen's list of some important contemporary Connecticut poets and poets with strong Connecticut ties:

Elizabeth Alexander  
Cortney Davis\*  
Jon Davis\*  
Russell Edson  
Margaret Gibson  
Donald Hall  
John Hollander  
Gray Jacobik  
Leslie McGrath  
Rennie McQuilkin

William Meredith  
James Merrill  
Marilyn Nelson  
Norah Pollard\*  
Ravi Shankar

Vivian Shipley  
Jeffrey Skinner\*  
Richard Wilbur

\* Former UB Student



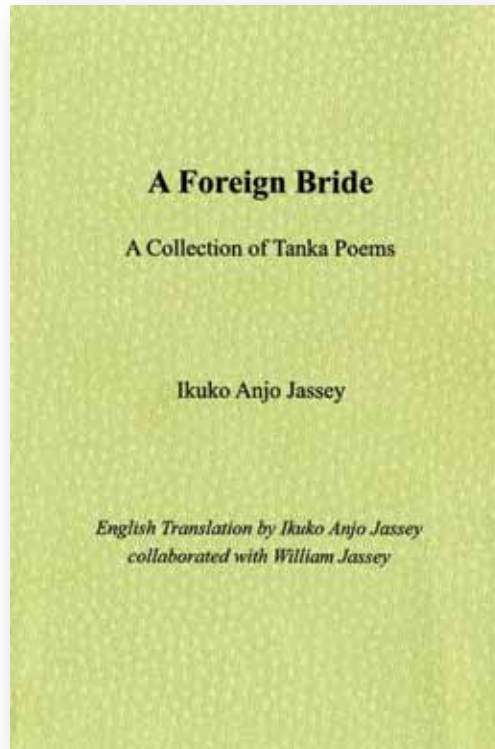


# A Foreign

## Professor Ikuko Jassey's simple tanka poems reveal the complexities of moving to America, and the power of language.

By Leslie Geary

# Bride



Words wake Ikuko Jassey, bump against her emerging consciousness and urge her to the waiting study. Fully alert, she carefully slips out of bed so as not to rouse her husband, then makes her way to a small, round table, where for the next few hours she will write.

It's tricky going, this poetry business. Jassey alternates between waiting for and hunting down the perfect words to distill into short 31-syllable poems known as *tanka*. Just as poets have composed *tanka* in Japan for some 1,300 years, Jassey arranges the words on paper in a single vertical line. In America, Jassey's home since 1993, *tanka* poems are divided into four or five lines of varying syllabic units, typically: 5-7-5-7-7.

Eventually, the line of poetry inches to its way to conclusion. Jassey is pleased. She has expressed what she cannot say in English.

---

*"To my home country / I want to return, / and yet I don't want to return. / No, I can't. Snow piles up quietly in my heart."*

---

Longing for the homeland,  
yet I become humorous  
in utterance—  
a foreign bride.

わが故国恋しと思えども言わばひょうきんになるじやがたらお春

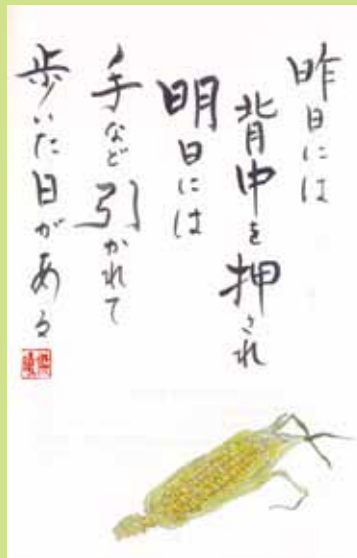
Later, she will translate the words into English. "I do love to live here, but Japanese is my language," Jassey says. "Language is culture. When I speak Japanese, I carry that culture. When I write in Japanese, I can be more feminine."

As an adjunct professor of Japanese language at the University's International College, Jassey has given much thought to the power of words and how identity is shaped by language. Her husband Bill Jassey shares her interest in linguistics. (He is director of the International Degree Program at UB's School of Education, where he has recruited several of his Chinese students to teach Mandarin at Bridgeport high schools.)

*(continued on page 26)*



Above: Iluko Jassey writes her tanka by pen, but frequently illustrates her poems with watercolors of her favorite foods.



There are days  
when yesterday gently pushed my back  
to encourage.  
There are days  
when tomorrow warmly took my hand  
to lead.

Each July, the couple opens their Wilton, Connecticut, home to teaching cohorts from Japan, China, and Taiwan, who come to the University each summer to earn master's degrees in education. Sometimes the Jasseys serve their international guests barbecue lunches hot off grill, sometimes it's sushi or inari-zushi, stuffed plump with rice from the Fuji Mart in Greenwich. But always, flavors, languages, and culture mix easily at their home.

---

*"What I long for / the dialect of my region / and  
a flat inari-zushi / tied with doubled gourd-strings."*

---

Ikuko Jassey was a tenured professor at Kyoritsu Women's University in Tokyo when she met Bill Jassey. At the time, he worked for the Norwalk School District and had come to Japan to launch a student-exchange program. A mutual friend suggested he contact Ikuko when he got to Tokyo. Their meeting—for a daylong excursion to local schools—blossomed into a full-blown courtship. When they decided to marry, Bill offered to relocate, but Ikuko explains, "it made more sense for me to move." Besides, she was in love. She packed her bags without hesitation.

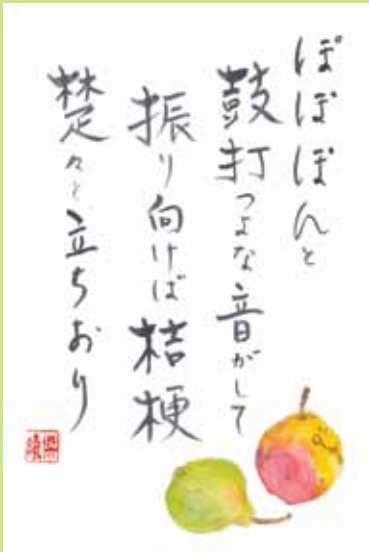
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*"Stay as you are; / Stay what you are. / Nothing  
is there to add; / Nothing is there to subtract."*

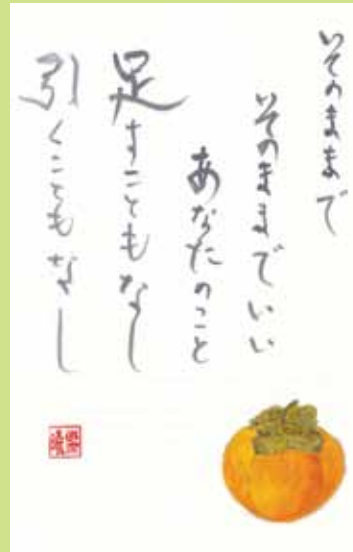
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Jassey didn't write tanka poems when she first arrived in the U.S. Instead, she wrote a book, *The Modern Cio-Cio-San: Intercultural Marriages*, containing interviews with Japanese women who had married American husbands. She got the idea after picking up a copy of *The Modern Madame Butterfly*. The book purported to be the seminal study of foreign wives "but the author never interviewed the wives! Only the husbands!" says Jassey, clearly irritated. "It was ridiculous. I thought, 'I'll interview Japanese women myself.'"

Jassey interviewed 46 women and, for a balanced study, their husbands. Even so, she says, the end result "was not very interesting." Some couples were in love, others had troubled marriages, the kind of things you'd expect in any marriage study. As a result, there was nothing concrete or quantifiable that satisfied her academic's need for enlightened analysis. Disappointed, Jassey shifted focus on her teaching at UB and earning a doctoral degree at Columbia University. New friends welcomed her warmly. And with Bill's enthusiastic participation, she adorned their home and gardens with



Hearing sounds like tapping a tambor, I looked back and saw a slender stem of balloon flowers standing gracefully.



“Ah freezing”  
“Real kold”  
Dialects—  
An intangible legacy of the past—  
are disappearing.

Japanese art, statues, and a small Japanese-style sitting area with a tatami floor.

Still, her heart strained for Japan and the U.S. How to express this bifurcated longing?

*“Longing for the homeland / yes, I become humorous / in utterance— / a foreign bride.”*

Jassey is not the first woman to find her voice through poetry. In the United States, Emily Dickinson, Maya Angelou, and Amy Lowell express the inner-lives and external realities of being women writers. In Japan, it's Yosano Akiko. A feminist and crusader for social reform, Akiko's poems were among the first to address formally verboten topics, such as women's sexuality and the horror of war. In that way, says Jassey, they symbolized “the starting point for modern Japan.”

Akiko's tanka also nudged Jassey toward poetry. “It was November 2003, and I was reading her poems. Suddenly, I thought I would try.”

Jassey began writing tanka on postcards, sometimes adorning them with small, jewel-like watercolors of corn and persimmons, wheat, strawberries. Food, as evocative as words, figures prominently in her poems:

*“On these days / thinking of my home country, / I eat chilled noodles / wearing traditional samue clothes.”*

She sent the postcards to friends. As her skill and confidence in poetry developed, she also submitted them Japanese tanka journals. In September, one of her poems was selected to appear in Japan's highly prestigious magazine, *Kadokawa's Tanka*, and earlier this year Jassey published *A Foreign Bride*, her first collection of tanka.

She takes a copy from her bookshelf, and reading aloud in Japanese to a visitor, ticks off a poem's 31 syllables on her fingers. When she finishes, she points to its English translation:

*After a rainfall, / splashing water / from puddles of rain / a group of children's boots / zoomed past— / yellow, red, and blue.”*

It's not quite the same in English and Japanese, she concedes. The original graces the page, an elegant line of Japanese symbols. The other, a squat box of English verse, spills over the dedicated 31 syllables. Yet printed side by side on a single page, each version fits perfectly, despite their differences. ■

## The experience of travel inspires professor Amy Nawrocki's latest collection of poetry.

By Leslie Geary

# Journey's Words

English professor Amy Nawrocki spent the summer exploring the Nutmeg State with husband and fellow UB professor Eric Lehmann, researching their upcoming book on Connecticut wineries (see Faculty Lines, page 35).

But travel also inspires *Nomad's End*, Nawrocki's most recent book of poetry to be published by Finishing Line Press in October.

"I'd say the collection is about landscapes, the places we visit, the places we settle, and the spaces in-between: beaches and mountains, deserts and islands, star-filled skies, campfires and trails," says Nawrocki.

Nawrocki didn't intend to write a book about journeys; *Nomad's End* contains 25 poems written over a span of five years. But when Nawrocki reviewed the collection, she "started to see commonalities among them."

The book's title comes from a line in one of the poems about a crab that has shed its shell and is searching for a new home. "When we travel we often are thinking about the experience along the way, but so often we're looking for something at the end," says Nawrocki. "*Nomad's End* is when we find it." ■



## The Fable of Travel

At the start, the path curves  
out of the linearity of a map  
spread flat on the kitchen table:  
only a fable, a post card yet unsent.

The map that forms in the mind  
takes less shape, but remains confined  
to imagination until, like an unexpected gift sent  
then savored, it opens and unfolds widely,  
ocean-vast, elegant in its reality.

Breakfast looks out at hummingbirds  
drinking from the sugar feeder  
and as we leave the lodge, we know  
the route and its blend of landscapes  
will offer us the perfect wisdom.  
The roadway bows around the Gaspé  
and we seek nothing, but savor  
each sighting. Soon the ocean  
offers its pool of magic—to the north,  
towns open like day lilies,  
while opposite, wave after wave  
leave the blessed impression of infinity.  
To partake in the dance of contrast,  
we stop the car to wade in ocean water  
and drink the copper sky.

— Amy Nawrocki

Amy Nawrocki will read from *Nomad's End* on April 21, 2011 as part of the English Department's new lecture series on writing and the arts, *Necessary Voices*. For details, go to [www.bridgeport.edu/voices](http://www.bridgeport.edu/voices).

# Denyse Schmidt

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[mjfoster@bridgeport.edu](mailto:mjfoster@bridgeport.edu)

# News Lines

## Back to school!

**Undergraduate enrollment surges by double digits.**

By Leslie Geary

Student hosts, adorned in bright yellow T-shirts and “Ask Me” stickers, were on hand to greet freshmen and their parents when the new students moved into residence halls on August 25-26, then festivities were quickly underway with a Hawaiian-inspired barbeque featuring food, dancing, and other activities.

There is plenty to smile about this year, as UB continues to grow.

Some 5,153 students have enrolled for 2010-2011, an increase of 10 percent from a year ago. A 32 percent surge among new undergraduates accounts for much of the growth. Total undergraduate population stands at 2,453 students.

The number of new graduate students also rose by 3 percent.

Students this year come from more than 80 countries around the world, sealing the University’s longstanding reputation as one of the most

culturally and academically diverse campuses in the United States. Even so, domestic students are flocking to UB: 769 new undergrads are from the U.S., a 37 percent jump over the past year.

University President Neil A. Salonen, who with his wife Rebecca attended the barbeque to personally greet new arrivals, called the influx of students from Connecticut, New Jersey, and New York “a return” for UB, which for decades drew local students to its campus. Nevertheless, Salonen added, the school’s unparalleled diversity remains one of its biggest draws.

“A typical comment we hear is: ‘It’s not why I came to UB, but it became one of the most valuable experiences I had,’” said Salonen. ■



**Above: Upper-classmen greeted new students and helped them find their way as they moved into residence halls in August.**

**Right: UB President Salonen and his wife Rebecca personally welcomed new students at a special barbeque.**



# Prescription for excellence

**UB and UConn team up to offer an innovative pre-pharmacy program.**

The University of Bridgeport and the University of Connecticut have created a unique new health program that, starting this fall, will prepare more students from Fairfield County to qualify for UConn's highly competitive School of Pharmacy.

The joint effort is one of the few times that a public and a private university have teamed up to offer enhanced academic programs, said UB President Neil A. Salonen at the signing ceremony on June 14.

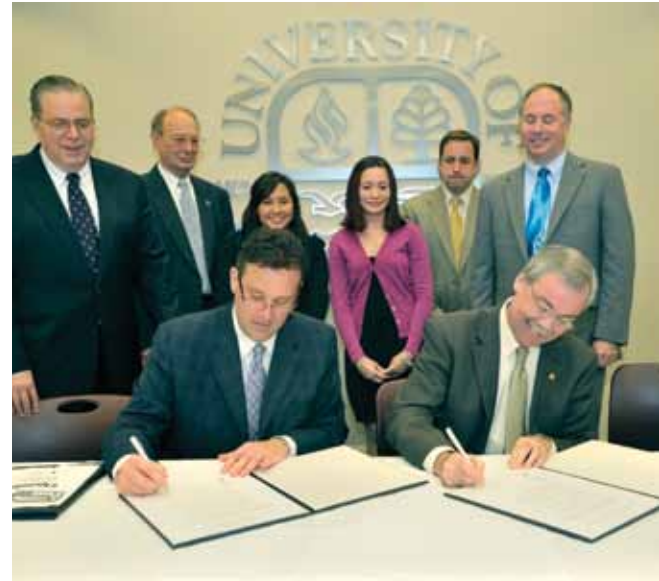
"The unique partnership between UConn and UB opens the doors for a broad range of students to prepare for one of the finest pharmacy programs in the nation so they can obtain jobs in the expanding field of health care. It represents a step forward on a commitment the University of Bridgeport has to expand offerings in the Division of Health Divisions," Salonen said.

Beginning this fall, UB will offer a two-year pre-pharmacy program that complies with the rigid curriculum standards for UConn's Doctor of Pharmacy degree.

Students who complete their pre-pharmacy requirements in Bridgeport, regardless of their permanent residency status, will be eligible to apply to the UConn doctoral program in pharmacy as part of the new partnership agreement.

"This collaboration will expand pre-pharmacy education in the state of Connecticut and allow new opportunities for a wide diversity of well-qualified students to pursue pharmacy as a career," said David M. Brady, vice provost for the health sciences division at UB. "It started as an idea of bringing a pharmacy program to UB."

Robert L. McCarthy, dean of the UConn School of Pharmacy, who with Dr. Brady signed the Memorandum of Understanding officially launching the program, said: "We are very excited about this partnership with our colleagues from the University of Bridgeport.



**Seated (left to right): Vice Provost for the University of Bridgeport Division of Health Sciences Dr. David Brady and UConn School of Pharmacy Dean Dr. Robert McCarthy sign a Memorandum of Understanding on June 14, creating a pre-pharmacy program that will train UB students to qualify for the UConn School of Pharmacy.**

Having a UConn presence in the city of Bridgeport. UB attracts a diverse group of students—many of whom are first-generation college students—and we look forward to providing these students with an opportunity to pursue a career in pharmacy."

The partnership reflects a tradition of innovation at UB's Division of Health Services, which began with the founding in 1914 of the Fones School of Dental Hygiene, the first dental hygiene school in the world. UB's College of Naturopathic Medicine is the only naturopathic college in the eastern United States. The School of Human Nutrition was among the first to offer online classes. And the Physicians Assistant Institute, which starts its class in January 2011, will be the only PA program in the U.S. with an emphasis on holistic medicine.

The UConn School of Pharmacy—with its Doctor of Pharmacy degree and research-intensive graduate programs in medicinal chemistry, pharmaceuticals and pharmacology/toxicology—has a reputation as one of the best pharmacy education programs in the nation and attracts some of the brightest national and international students. ■ — L.G.

# News Lines



## Log on!

**It's easier than ever to connect with UB, thanks to the University's new Web site.**

The streamlined site launched in August and was revamped so users can more quickly access information they need, communicate with the University, and stay informed about campus events.

"We launched just in time for the new school year, and we're really excited about the improvements," said Web Manager Dan Alves. "Our alumni, faculty, and students will find it's more user-friendly."

The site also features new content, such as videos, photo galleries, event schedules, links, and a revamped alumni page. To learn more, log on to the main home page at [www.bridgeport.edu](http://www.bridgeport.edu) or go directly to the following links:

**[www.bridgeport.edu/alumni](http://www.bridgeport.edu/alumni)**

Visit to find out about alumni events, submit class notes, or read *Knighlines* online.

**[www.bridgeport.edu/newsevents](http://www.bridgeport.edu/newsevents)**

Catch up on the latest University news.

**[www.bridgeport.edu/purpleknights](http://www.bridgeport.edu/purpleknights)**

Features the Purple Knights' game schedules, results, stats, and other sports news.

**[www.bridgeport.edu/sasd](http://www.bridgeport.edu/sasd)**

Lists upcoming exhibitions and other programming at the Shintaro Akatsu School of Design.

**[www.bridgeport.edu/bookstore](http://www.bridgeport.edu/bookstore)**

Order spirit wear and other UB merchandise from Follet's Bookstore.

■ – L.G.

## Students' "Walk Against Hunger" a big success

**UB students donate more than 10,000 volunteer hours a year throughout Fairfield County, but when they teamed up to participate in the 2010 Walk Against Hunger last spring, it was the first time they had signed up for the annual fund-raiser.**

Even so, they came in second among Bridgeport-based teams vying to raise the most money for Connecticut Food Bank.

"Our students raised \$817 this year—that's just over 165 meals for someone who doesn't have enough to eat—during their inaugural walk to end hunger. They're already planning to participate next year, when we want to crack through \$1,000," said Edina Oestreicher, assistant dean of student affairs. "We're really excited by the response. And it was great to be involved in this



**From left: UB Director of Financial Aid Kathy Gailor joins students Yolanda Flores and Francisco De la Cruz at Walk Against Hunger.**

important community event."

Every step counts. The Connecticut Food Bank delivers 37 tons of food every day, and one out of three of those who receive aid, are children. ■ – L.G.

## Top execs from Pez Candy and NewAlliance Bank elected to the Board of Trustees

**The University of Bridgeport has announced the appointment of two new members to its Board of Trustees: Joseph Vittoria, President and CEO of Pez Candy, Inc., and NewAlliance Bank President C. Gene Kirby.**

"Joe and Gene bring to the Board of Trustees decades of business experience in the private sector," said University President Neil A. Salonen. "Their expertise is invaluable as UB continues to grow, enhance programs, and fulfills its mission of providing students with a career-oriented education that meets the demands of a global economy in the 21st century."

Mr. Vittoria joined Pez Candy, Inc., in Orange, CT, in 2004. Previously, he served as Associate Partner and Senior Industry Consultant at PricewaterhouseCoopers Consulting, specializing in process re-engineering in



**Joseph Vittoria**

**Gene Kirby**

finance and operations strategies.

He received a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Iona College.

C. Gene Kirby joined NewAlliance Bank in New Haven as President in 2009 to oversee each of the bank's primary lines of business. He also serves as the Executive Vice President of the Holding Company, NewAlliance Bancshares. Previously, Mr. Kirby was Corporate Executive Vice President at SunTrust Bank in Atlanta.

He received his Bachelor's in Finance from Virginia Tech and an MBA from Duke University. ■ – L.G.

# Faculty Lines

## Finding a cure for sickle cell anemia

Researchers developing cures for sickle cell anemia have been treating mice by fixing the gene that causes the disease—but not without severe side effects. In fact, high mortality rates among treated mice dampen hopes for treating human patients soon. The problem: proteins currently used to bind to the one altered gene that causes sickle cell anemia cut into other locations along the genome, leading to cell death in a process known as *cytotoxicity*. To eliminate so-called off-target binding, researchers have proposed a strategy of changing the length of protein binding domains that are used to attach onto the affected gene.

Will their technique work?

That's the focus of research by UB engineering faculty Drs. **Christian Bach** and **Hasan Bajwa**, and PhD engineering student **Kris Erodula**. By crunching computational algorithms on high-end servers loaned

by IBM and Intel Corp, the trio is determining if protein-binding domains of various lengths, will bind onto one or several locations along the human genome.

"We've successfully processed DNA strings of 9, 12, 15, 18 bps on the entire human genome," says Bach, a molecular biologist and biochemist. "When processing each of the 46 chromosomes that make up the human genome individually, searching a DNA string of 9bps took 15 to 18 hours. But by parallel processing the 46 chromosomes in a cluster environment we can currently process the search in just 25 to 30 minutes. Our research efforts are toward furnishing user-friendly tools that can parallel process large data sets."

What's more, the team's computations have helped them design proteins that significantly reduce or eliminate off-target binding, thereby making it potentially safer to treat patients suffering from sickle cell. ■ — **Leslie Geary**



## SASD students to design tasting room in Italy

Interior design chairman **John Kandalraft** traveled to the Cascina Bruciata vineyard in Barbaresco, Italy, this summer to start a new commission for the Shintaro Akatsu School of Design (SASD).

A selected number of students from the interior, graphic, and industrial design programs will be chosen to redesign the winery's existing tasting room as a retail shop and draw up plans for a new enclosed structure with a cantilevered observatory overlooking the vineyard. In addition, a graphic design class will design directional signage and concepts for new wine labels.

Kandalraft made the trip at the

request of alumnus Shintaro Akatsu '88, who got to know SASD's design programs last year when he donated \$2 million to the school, which was renamed in his honor.

"This is a unique opportunity for our students," said Professor Kandalraft. "Challenging because it involves architectural, structural and interior design."

Students from SASD are invited to work on projects with local firms on a regular basis, but this is the first time they will be involved in a project overseas. Students will be selected for the project in the early part of the fall semester, and final plans will be submitted in the spring 2011. ■ — **L.G.**

## Playing to a larger audience

It's a standing ovation for **Jeffrey Johnson**, UB's inimitable director of music. Johnson reviews classical concerts for all of the state's newspapers, and this summer his column was picked up by the *Boston Globe*. "It's something I really enjoy doing," says Johnson. "It's an immediate audience. While newspaper subscriptions are on the decline, the reviews go online and on the Internet. There's a surprisingly large feedback. Soloists put blurbs of my reviews on their Web sites. I feel like it's very good for the school."

Fans can get more of Johnson's terrific work on his new blog, too. It's entitled "Sonic Labyrinth, a blog for the eternally cool in classical music."

Launched in June, it features videos and insouciant articles—"Sexy Ravel," "Scream: Shostakovich on TV," and "La Traviata on the Odd Couple"—that entice readers to dip their toes into the world of classical music.

"My goal is to feed music lovers things that will help them listen to music in depth, in new ways.



I can't do this in any other format that I know of. It costs me nothing to use blogger software, and I give away my stuff for free. There's something very appealing about that kind of dynamic,"

says Johnson, ever the professor. The blog already has attracted more than 700 followers.

Log on at <http://soniclabyrinth.blogspot.com>. ■ — **L.G.**

## B-School prof's new book earns praise from peers



**Jim Sagner's** latest book, *Essentials of Working Capital Management*, will be published by Wiley & Sons in November. Sagner,

an associate professor at the business school's MBA program, argues that difficult economic times make it imperative for businesses to optimize liquidity, and he lays out steps to free up capital. The book, he says, "is designed for any organization, be it for-profit or not-for-profit, because everyone has to manage assets and liabilities."

Sagner speaks from experience; he previously ran the Consulting Services Division at the Bank of Chicago, now Bank One, overseeing large-scale studies for more than 250 clients, including securities firms, banks, hospitals, and finance companies.

Advanced copies of the book have caught the attention of finance and banking experts. Frank J. Fabozzi, Becton Fellow in the Yale School of Management, said *Essentials* "should be required reading." UB's associate business professor **Arthur McAdams** co-wrote the book's chapter on working-capital information systems. ■ — **L.G.**



From left, Students **Jasmine Campos**, **Kirstin Jones**, and **Shigemune Mori** with IC Dean **Thomas Ward** (in green cap) visited Jordan this summer.

## World of learning

International College Dean **Thomas Ward** traveled to Jordan in June and visited UB students **Jasmine Campos**, **Kirstin Jones**, **Alexandra Alvarez**, and **Shigemune Mori**, who studied at Princess Sumaya University over the summer.

He also met with the secretary general of the Arab Thought Forum, which was founded by Prince El Hasan bin Talal, to discuss collaborative programs with UB.

Next it was on to France for sightseeing and shopping. "Where else but in Paris can you walk into the equivalent of Best Buy and find two solid racks of books on geopolitics?" Ward says. ■ — **L.G.**

## Exploring Connecticut's wine country

**Eric Lehman** and wife **Amy Nawrocki**, both English professors, have been exploring Connecticut's wineries for their upcoming book, *Vineyard in Your Backyard: A History of Connecticut Wine*.

"Believe it or not, Connecticut has over 30 wineries, many opening in the past few years," says Nawrocki.

The duo's research has taken them to Eastern Connecticut, where they spotted nesting ospreys at the newly opened Saltwater Farm Vineyard. With its diversified landscape—from the southeastern shoreline to the green, rolling hills of the Western Highlands—the state is amply suited for growing white grapes like Chardonnay, Sauvignon



Blanc, Riesling, Seyval Blanc, and a relative newcomer to the region, Pinot Gris, they report.

For the reds, Cabernet Franc may be one of the most successful Connecticut grapes, and hybrids like St. Croix also do well in Connecticut's soil and climate.

Next up: the Connecticut Wine Festival in Goshen. *Vineyard in Your Backyard* will be published by The History Press in April 2011. ■ — **L.G.**

## Faculty Lines

### Literacy award for School of Ed's Margaret Queenan

The Connecticut Reading Association has selected School of Education Professor **Margaret Queenan** to receive its Distinguished Literacy Award in November. The honor recognizes individuals who have made significant contributions to literacy at the state level.

The award states, "You have provided outstanding support to the educators in Connecticut through your work as the Co-President of Fairfield Reading Council and the President of Connecticut Association of Reading Research. Your contributions at the state level are endless in the



work you've done on the CMTs, the CAPT, and various committees."

School of Education Dean Allen Cook called Queenan one of the school's "most-valued faculty members."

"She's appreciated not only for her work in the classroom but

for helping thousands of children attain mastery in reading," said Cook. "She's a leading researcher in reading in the country. She has an impressive record. On a personal level, she's extremely well liked by everyone who meets her and works with her." ■ — L.G.

## Book Lines



*Everything Happens Today* (Wordclay) by alumnus **Richard Fewell** '79 opens with a U.S. Air Force soldier waking in a full-body cast at St. Alban's Naval Hospital in New York. It's 1960 and he is "between awake . . . and asleep." Unable to move, Fewell's protagonist has in fact, long been trapped in spiritual purgatory, hiding "deep inner fears . . . and miserable as hell." He is "pure mixed race American" in a racist America. A good soldier. A dutiful son, rejected at every

turn. ("I was in the Colorado Motor Vehicle Department. I only wanted to get a driver's license. I stood silent as they talked about me as if I wasn't there.") Injured, he floats in and out of morphine-induced "moon rides" to confront inner-demons, from addiction to the lashes of racism. Fewell's modern-day Odyssey not only tells the story of a soldier finding his rightful place back home, but like Dos Passos's *USA Trilogy*, explores America's most shameful past with a voice that blends poetry, dialogue, narrative. Grammy Award-nominated poet Nikki Giovanni called *Everything Happens Today* no less than a "song belted out with . . . bravery, boldness."



What's the trick to raising a world-class tennis star? Emphasize academics over athletics. That's just some of the surprising, highly engaging advice found in *Mix it Up Make it Nice, Secrets of a Tennis Mom* (Fay Publishing) by James Blake's mother, Betty Blake. The book's cover and promotional materials were designed by UB mass communications professor **Susan Katz**. As a kid, James Blake wore a back brace to correct severe scoliosis, never attended a tennis

academy, yet rose to the top 30 in the tennis world, thanks to the constant love of his family, writes Blake, who shares tips to help parents steer children to success, even when facing seemingly insurmountable hurdles. To view Katz's other design work, go to <http://tiny.cc/94s37>.



The story of the immigrant or itinerant has long stood for the attempt to create a new home and become a part of American society. But UB English professor **Diane Krumrey** and her co-editor Jessica Datema ask readers to reconsider the immigrant in their new book, *Wretched Refuge: Immigrants and Itinerants in the Postmodern* (Cambridge Scholars). The essays in their book look at various literary views of the immigrant experience by postmodern

authors like Cormac McCarthy, Junot Diaz, Edwidge Danticat, Jeffrey Eugenides, Jhumpa Lahiri, Roberto Bolano, Paul Bowles, and Bill McKibben. They present the itinerant, not as a displaced shadow seeking acceptance, but as a hybrid citizen of the world, who both influences and is influenced by local and global community.



Aspiring home owners would do well to read *Yes, You're Approved!* (Yes, Enterprises) by alumna **Lori S. Jones Gibbs** '82. Step-by-step tips range from how to get your financial house in order to a chapter on legal issues. Helpful, too, are sample letters and detailed lists of documents borrowers need to qualify for a mortgage. But what distinguishes the book is Gibbs's reason for writing it: Both she and her husband grew up in housing projects.

Both were first-generation college students (she earned her MBA from UB). And both were determined to buy a home of their own. Their first loan request was denied, but they "made a point to learn more about their options," says Gibbs. Later they invested in rental properties and made profits to send their own kids to college. "We've always believed that if we could make that journey, so can others like us." ■ — Leslie Geary

# Alumni Lines

*Would you like to share news of your own or nominate an alum to be interviewed for a "Focus On" interview? We're interested in what you're doing, and so are your classmates! Contact: Knightlines, Cortright Hall, 219 Park Avenue, Bridgeport, CT 06604 or [knightlines@bridgeport.edu](mailto:knightlines@bridgeport.edu).*

*Be sure to include your full name, contact information, and class year.*

## 1932

Betsey Nash Stevens and Evelene Nash Rabou inform us that their mother, **Chary Demarest Nash**, has passed away. She was 98 years old. Mrs. Nash received her associate degree from the University before earning her B.A. at Wellesley College in 1934. She was a founder and charter member for more than 50 years of the American Association of University Women, Clinton Branch. She had retired as secretary of the research laboratory at Chesebrough Ponds.

## 1959

**John "Jack" Ryan** is interested in connecting with any former member of KBR fraternity who graduated in 1959, or any other 1959 alum. He can be reached at [jfr928@aol.com](mailto:jfr928@aol.com).

## 1960

**Joanne C. Fletcher** was awarded the Excellence in Dental Hygiene Award from Johnson and Johnson and the American Dental Hygienists Association in June. The award is given to dental hygienists whose "outstanding accomplishments . . . have a significant impact on the practice and future of the dental hygiene profession." The Fones School alumna served from 1994 to 1995 as the Acting Director of Fones School, where she was a faculty member from 1976 to

1996. While at UB, she received the Henry Littlefield Outstanding Teaching Award. She is the former president of the Connecticut Dental Hygienists Association and founded a new dental hygiene program at Collin College in McKinney, TX, where she has served as director for the last 12 years.

## 1964

**Fred Wetzler** passed away in June. The electrical engineering alumnus used his degree as a technical and science writer. "His true love," writes his wife, Joan, "was jazz piano. He played in several big bands and small groups." He is predeceased by his son David and survived by three daughters and six grandchildren.

## 1965

**Toby Ulman Grandberg** writes that she and her husband Marty are "still active in our Sharon, Mass, community. Our daughter, Rachel, son-in-law, Shad Weinstein, and two-year old granddaughter, Isabella, live in the next town so we are able to see and enjoy them often." The Grandberg's son, Harris, was married in August. "We are having good times," says Grandberg, a Fones School alumna, who would love to hear from classmates. She can be reached at [Tgrandberg@aol.com](mailto:Tgrandberg@aol.com).

## 1971

**Gloria J. Campbell** has been recognized by the National Association of Professional Women as Woman of the Year 2010-2011 for having demonstrated excellence and dedication within her profession. Campbell retired from the School District of Lancaster, PA, after serving for 30 years as an elementary school teacher, guidance counselor, assistant principal, and principal. She is currently employed at Powell Steel Corporation as director of administrative services

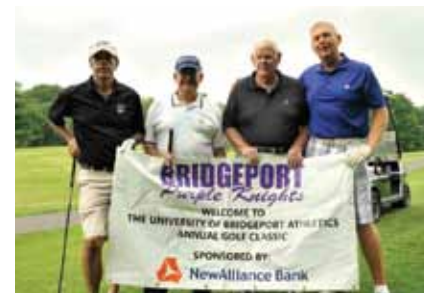
and is the co-owner of Bird's Nest Restaurant in Lancaster, PA. "All this keeps us pretty busy!" Campbell reports. "My degree in Spanish from UB has served me well, both in the school district and here at Powell because we do have Spanish-speaking employees." She can be reached at: [gcampbell@powellsteel.com](mailto:gcampbell@powellsteel.com)

## 1972

Alumni have called and written to remember with great fondness **Craig Pepin**, who was killed in the mass shooting at Hartford Distributors in Manchester, CT, on August 3. Pepin was the former goalie for the men's soccer team from 1970-72, when he set a single season school record with eight shut-outs during the 1971 year. An active volunteer in his South Windsor, CT, community, he coached soccer, basketball, and Little League.

## 1979

When **Irene "Fanny" Pittman** retired as a mental health nurse, someone told her not to sit down. She took the advice to heart. For the past 22 years she has volunteered with Big Brothers Big Sisters' Foster Grandparent Program, dispensing love and advice to schoolchildren at the Carmen Arace School in Bloomfield, CT, where she lives. She also serves on the Foster Grandparent Program's Advisory Council. In June, the Connecticut Senior Service Corps Association awarded her the Romero Cherry Senior Corps Volunteer Award for years of exemplary contributions to the Foster Grandparent Program. Ms. Pittman also received a \$100 donation to Big Brothers Big Sisters in Hartford from the New England States and Eastern Canada Daughters of Elks. Previously, she received citations signed by Governor M. Jodi



From left: Trustee Mark Fries '73, Paul Timpanelli, alumnus Bill Brew '62, and Mike Lipsett played at the Annual UB Athletics Golf Tournament at Tashua Knolls Golf Course in Trumbull, CT, in June. The event raised nearly \$22,000 for athletic programs.



Nikita Phillips '10 and Vern Montoute '10 became the newest members of the Alumni Association at a dinner held at Bridgeport's Barnum Museum on April 28.



UB float *Made in Bridgeport* rallied the crowd at the Barnum Festival Parade on June 27. The float was made by University carpenters David Dadidowski and Jim Melita.

(continued on page 38)

# Alumni Lines

Rell, Attorney General Richard Blumenthal, and State Comptroller Nancy Wyman. "I love it. I love that I'm helping the children," says the UB alumna. "It's so much fun to see the children grow up."

## 1982

B-school alumnus and former accounting major **Kenneth Pogrob** was recently elected trustee of the New Jersey Society of Certified Public Accountants for a three-year term, beginning June 1, 2010. He is a partner at WeiserMazars, LLP, in Edison, and serves on the governing board of the Education Foundation of the Commercial Finance Association. He and his wife **Michele Eisenberger Pogrob '85**, an alumna from the School of Education, have a daughter and a son.

## 1985



**Steve D'Agostino** is entertaining audiences throughout the country with his quartet. His debut CD was released in 2009. "Steve D'Agostino, A Chapter From The Great American Songbook" was recorded in Tony Bennett's recording studio with three-time Grammy Award winner Peter Karam at the helm. The CD is available on iTunes and Steve's Web site: [www.SteveDAgostino.com](http://www.SteveDAgostino.com). Steve studied jazz guitar at UB under Sal Salvador and voice with vocal teacher Rosemary Finnegan. He lives in Trumbull with his wife, Lisa, and two children, Julia and son Michael.

Steve graduated from UB with a BS in accounting and a master's in Business Administration. He currently is director of licensing at Condé Nast Publications.

## 1986

**Caren Silverlieb** recently became vice president for resident policy and program development at Jewish Community Housing for the Elderly. She used her human services education from UB to jump-start a career, and later obtained her master's degree from the Heller School at Brandeis University. She is very proud that her work helps older adults remain in the community with support services, but is most proud of her fabulous 13-year-old daughter, Lauren. They live in Belmont, MA. She looks forward to hearing from former classmates at [csilverlieb@verizon.net](mailto:csilverlieb@verizon.net).

**Richard Vogel** writes in to say that he's "impressed with all that's happening at UB" and to update us on his happenings: For the past 19 years Vogel has worked in recruiting and is currently a cofounder and partner at Charles Gabriel Partners, LLC, an executive search firm. He and his wife **Donna Morgan Vogel '88** live in New Jersey with their two children. He invites anyone who would "like to reach out" or wants to find out more about his company to contact him at [rich@charlesgabrielpartners.com](mailto:rich@charlesgabrielpartners.com).

## 2006

**Sana Sarr** reports that he was selected for a "once-in-a-lifetime opportunity" to represent his native country of Gambia at the President's Forum with Young African Leaders in Washington D.C. in August. Sarr met President Obama in a Town Hall-style meeting. Sarr earned his bachelor's in International Political Economy and Diplomacy in 1994 and returned to UB to earn his MBA in 2006. To learn more, go to [www.america.gov/young\\_african\\_leaders.html](http://www.america.gov/young_african_leaders.html).

## 2007



**Andrew Hill** was named Brookfield School District's 2010 Teacher of the Year. He teaches math at Brookfield High School. A graduate of UB's School of Education master's degree program, Hill also serves as Brookfield High's adviser for Brookfield's Information Technology Research and Development Competition. In addition, he advises his high school's formidable math league; its students have won state championships for 13 out of the last 17 years. "We have really great kids and we try to encourage as much participation as possible," says Hill. ■ - L.G.

## UB honors three at Distinguished Alumni Awards Dinner

By Mike Patrick

Three alumni who went on to great success in varied careers were honored on June 10 at the annual Distinguished Alumni Awards Dinner.

Marian Heard '63, Frank McLaughlin '55, and Frank Scifo '79 were celebrated by dozens of university alumni, faculty, staff, and friends in the Mr. and Mrs. Henry B. duPont III Tower Room, in the Arnold Bernhard Arts and Humanities Center.

Heard is the president and chief executive officer of Oxen Hill Partners, a Boston-based company specializing in leadership-development programs and brand-enhancement strategies.

She also held leadership positions in the United Way of Eastern Fairfield County United Way of Boston and United Ways of New England.



From left: Frank Scifo '79, Marian Heard '63, and Frank McLaughlin '55.



For 20 years, she was president and CEO of the Points of Light Foundation, an agency she founded to encourage volunteerism, and was honored by President George H.W. Bush and President George W. Bush for her efforts.

“I learned a lot at UB, and one of the things I learned was to do exactly the things I wanted to do,” Heard said.

McLaughlin has been a popular comic book artist for more than half a century. His work can be seen in comic books depicting Superman, Batman, Wonder Woman, Aquaman and other iconic superheroes.

McLaughlin also illustrated newspaper comic strips, such as Gil Thorp and The Heart of Juliet Jones.

Scifo is director of primary care development at St. Vincent’s Medical Center in Bridgeport. For the past decade he has co-chaired the hospital’s popular Swim Across the Sound event, raising millions of dollars for cancer research.

“In the past few years, this university has only gone in one direction, and that’s up,” Scifo said. “I’m proud to be a part of it.” ■



## Worth the Wait

### How a group of local aviation planners helped design UB’s first graduate program in engineering

It was the late 1950s when a group of local engineers from AVCO Lycoming in Stratford approached UB Engineering Dean Dr. Willard Berggren, urging the school to offer a Master of Science. Berggren agreed, and the state gave its tentative approval for the program in 1960.

A year later, the six engineers—Charles Kuintzle, Werner Egli, Clifford Banthin, Richard

Ainsworth, Henry Geer, and Walter Schrader—received official certification letters for completing the newly minted master’s program. But it wasn’t until January 1964, after the state formally accredited the program, that the group received their official diplomas from UB.

Charles Kuintzle was going through old papers at his Monroe, Connecticut, home when he

came across the 1961 letter of completion from UB and the diploma he waited so patiently for.

“The enclosed documents may be of some interest to you,” he recently wrote *Knightlines*. “It took years and much perseverance by everyone to get the program successfully in place, and I am proud and honored to have been a part of it.” So are we, Mr. Kuintzle! ■ —L.G.



**International alumni gathered for a special reunion at the Berengo Akatusu Collection Gallery in Tokyo on June 27. Guests included (front row, from left): Tsuyoshi Moriyama '91, Kazuyuki Mabuchi '96, Naoka Fujiwara '98, Yuko Tomizawa '98, Tetsuya Shimada '10, Takayoshi Enomoto '08 and (second row, from left) Kengo Ueda '03, Hayashi Katsushi '85, Shintaro Akatsu '88, University President Neil Salonen, Hiroko Numata '09, Masahiro Takeda, Junichi Konno '82, and Kiyoshi Anzai**

## Getting to Know You

A day with the University's oldest living alumna

By Mary-Jane Foster

Throughout my life, I have been blessed by encounters with extraordinary older women. I have relished every one of them, and with age (mine), I have become ardently thankful for the serendipity of each of these meetings.

My particular string of luck was extended by a lovely late morning meeting in July with UB's oldest living alumna, Helen Liskov '27.

The sentence does her no justice. A smart, funny, and incredibly handsome woman, who entered the first class to graduate from what was then the Junior College of Connecticut on Fairfield Avenue in Bridgeport; she went on to lead quite a life.

**Helen Liskov at graduation in 1927. She continues to attend University functions, like the Annual Holiday Party (below).**

Helen was just 15 when she graduated from the Business High School in Bridgeport. She didn't have the funds to attend college, but so impressed Junior College founder E. Everett Cortright that he hired Helen in his office so she could enroll and pay her tuition. She graduated in 1927 and, now armed with a more classic education, secured a scholarship to New York University and graduated from there at the age of 18 in 1931.

Helen had met Sam Liskov when she first entered Junior College and they went on to NYU together. They married in 1937, had children, and Helen continued her career and carved out a very important place in the community. She was the president of the Fairfield County chapter of the American Personnel and Guidance Association, a board member of the League of Women



Voters for 55 years, and active for many years with such organizations as the Jewish Federation, the Jewish Community Center, and the Bridgeport Housing Alliance. She became the first woman to ever sit on the board of the Bridgeport Public Library, and in due course became its president.

When I asked her why she thought they finally brought a woman on she told me they wanted her because she "could open doors." And, of course, that is the truth.

Sam became a very successful lawyer and state legislator and they had a wonderful partnership. I asked her lots of questions about her husband Sam and their life

together—children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, friends—everyone seemed to congregate at the Liskov house. They were music lovers, art patrons, literary, politically astute, and just generally instilled in everyone around them a sense of living well. They were active and supportive alumni, too. Helen told me that when the Junior College opened, "it was a very important thing in Bridgeport." A thriving university in the city she loves is still very important to her.

And to all of us, as well.

As Vice President of University Relations, I am fortunate that my "job" requires me to spend time with talented, inspiring alums like Helen Liskov and



the woman who introduced us: her niece Adele Liskov (Adele graduated from UB in 1972, and we met when the Office of University Relations hosted an alumni gathering in Washington, D.C. last March. She's spent 32 years working across all branches of the federal government in foreign policy and international development, and her passion is developing public-private partnerships with non-governmental organizations to deliver development and humanitarian assistance worldwide. Not surprising that the niece of Helen Liskov would be adventuresome and successful in an even larger sphere!)

As Adele, Helen, and I visited that hot July morning, I realized the soundtrack of *Oklahoma!* was playing. One of the songs we heard was the very passionate and romantic "Out of My Dreams." Helen told me that going into New York City and seeing Broadway musicals with Sam was the most special time they had together, and they guarded it very carefully. It was the only moment in a reminiscence of 98 years of a life well-lived that Helen's eyes misted over. She told me that what she most missed was the theater on Broadway with her beloved Sam. I couldn't help but ache for her. She sighed and said Sam was "marvelous."

I think Helen Liskov is marvelous, too, and I thank Adele for providing that very special introduction. I've so much to which I can aspire, and I look forward to getting to know more University's alumni—from classes decades ago and more recent years—to inspire me.

My door is always open. ■

## Kenneth Graham's Legacy

By Meems Ellenberg

In June of 2010, Ken Graham '71 notified the Office of University Relations that he had included UB in his Will. We were thrilled! Ken also provided us with a copy of that portion of his Will which delineates his gift to the University.

Knowing of Ken's gift during his lifetime (which we hope should be long, healthy, and happy) presents us with wonderful possibilities. We can thank him in so many ways, honor him for his foresight and altruism, and work with him to make all alumni and friends of UB aware of this marvelous way to make a gift to UB that may be larger than any gift you might make in your lifetime.

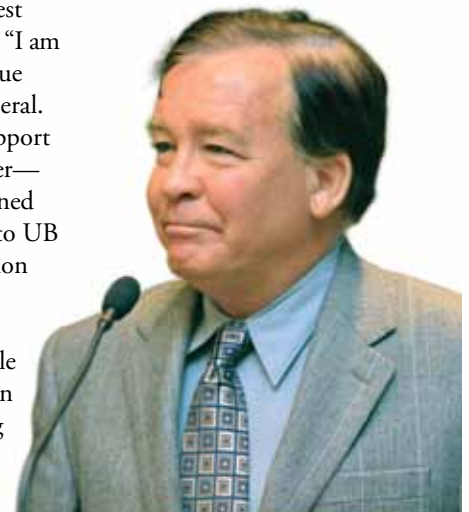
Ken, who was honored as a Distinguished Alumnus in 1997, also holds M.A. and J.D. degrees from Northeastern and Suffolk Universities, in addition to his B.A. from the University of Bridgeport. In 2003, he took

early retirement from a quarter century of service to the State of Connecticut in his position as Assistant Attorney General. He has been an active member of the UB Alumni Association Board of Directors since 1988, and served as President of the Alumni Association from 1991-1997. He continues his commitment to UB as Chair of the UB Distinguished Alumni Selection Committee.

Commenting on his bequest intentions to UB, Ken says, "I am a strong believer in the value of higher education in general. It is most important to support financially one's alma mater—both annually and in planned giving. Making a bequest to UB constitutes both appreciation for the quality education personally received and a desire to help make possible that same quality education for the students of ensuing generations.

"UB has a longstanding reputation of providing quality higher education," he continues. "and the UB alumni, in my view, should help make its continuation possible."

The University of Bridgeport salutes Ken Graham for his thoughtful, forward-thinking philanthropy. If you have included the University in your estate plans, please let us know. ■



### Declare your intentions!

It's easy to make a bequest to UB and join Ken Graham.

If you have already made a Will, you can add a gift to UB through an amendment known as a codicil, which can be executed for you by your attorney quite simply.

Any asset for which you designate a beneficiary can be bequeathed whole or in part, such as an IRA or a paid-up life insurance policy. Other assets you can bequeath include cash, securities, real estate, CDs, United States savings bonds, and tangible personal property.

Your gift can be:

- **SPECIFIC:** a particular item such as a home or an amount of cash;
- **RESIDUAL,** for all or a portion of your estate after specific bequests have been distributed; or
- **CONTINGENT,** which takes effect only under certain circumstances that you define, such as in the case of all other heirs predeceasing you.

Your gift can be unrestricted: Making a provision in your Will to bequeath a gift for unrestricted purposes enables the University to use your gift where the need is the greatest.

Or it can be given to support your favorite UB program: You may also designate your gift to a specific program or division at UB. Please discuss your plans with us in advance so that we can help you ensure that your wishes will be carried out.

If you wish to make a legacy gift, I would be pleased to work with you and your advisor to determine the type of gift that is most appropriate to your individual situation, interests, and needs.

Meems Ellenberg  
Director of Annual and Planned Giving  
203-576-4542  
mellenbe@bridgeport.edu

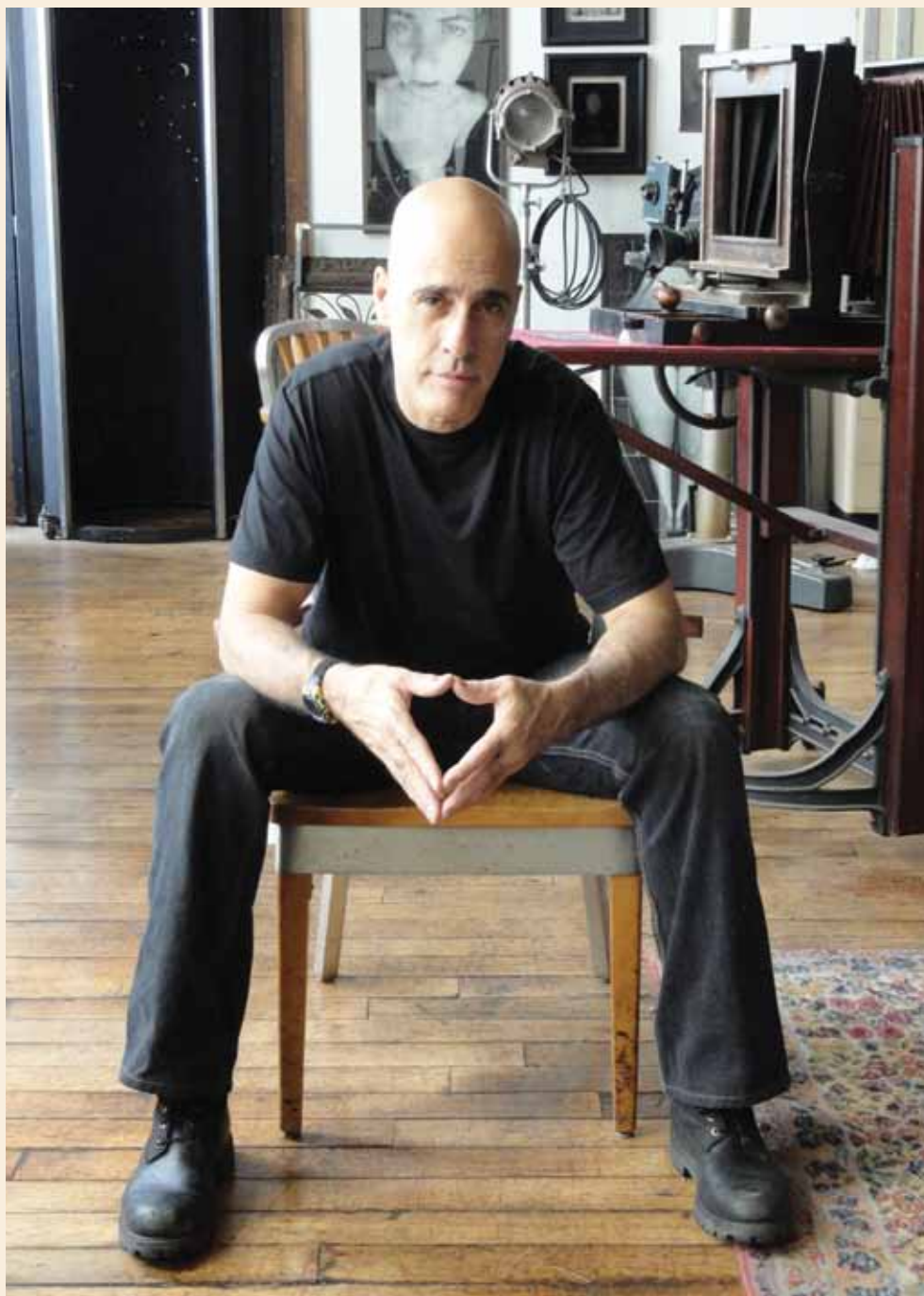
# Focus on: Thomas Mezzanotte

**Background:** Tom Mezzanotte enrolled at UB in 1970 as a physics major, but switched to English before studying fine arts and photography. He later worked at the University's Carlson Art Gallery, becoming its director in 1988. He has been a photographer for more than 40 years and is the recipient of several grants and awards, including three individual artist grants from the Connecticut Commission on the Arts. His studio is located in Bridgeport, Connecticut.

**Most recent accomplishment:** The Fairfield Arts Council just named Mezzanotte its 2010 Artist of the Year and will feature his photography at a special exhibition at the FAC Gallery, 70 Sanford Street, Fairfield, from October 22 through November 13.

**You've got a long history with UB. In fact, your mom worked at the school.**

She worked in payroll. At one time she even headed up the department. She had four kids to educate. We were middle class, and my parents did not have enough money to send us all to college. We went to UB for free. My oldest brother graduated from UB. My second brother got an undergraduate degree from UB, then his master's. I came in during the '70s. As it turned out, I ended up having a 20-year history with the University.



**When you got to UB you planned to study physics but wound up at the Arnold Bernhard Center, studying art.**

UB was a simmering pot of intellectual unrest. We would sit in the cafeteria and discuss Friedrich Nietzsche or the civil rights movement or our own mortality. I quickly became interested in history, literature, and music, and of course art. At the time,

UB's art department was one of the best in Connecticut. We had some really great professors: Susan Rinehart, Art Nager, Rodger Baldwin, who taught photography at Yale as well. He was my mentor. Harvey Stein was one of the teachers in the photo department; he also taught at the International Center of Photography in New York. We had an amazing school.

**Then you ran the Carlson Art Gallery for a while. What was that like?**

I loved it. I was working with world-famous artists. We had this program funded by Albert Dorne. He's the man who started Famous Artists School [with Norman Rockwell and other artists] in Westport, CT. He donated a big chunk of money in 1964 so UB could have famous artists come in three days every year. We had a show at the gallery, and they did critiques and gave lectures. We had everyone: Jasper Johns, Louise Nevelson, George McNeil, Red Grooms, Gregory Gillespe, Audrey Flack, Josef Albers, Fredrick Sommer, Dan Flavin, The list just goes on and on.

**When did you first pick up a camera?**

I had a paper route until I was a junior in high school, then I had a lawn-mowing business so I had plenty of money to buy myself a Nikkormat. It was a beautiful little camera. When I was in high school my friends and I found out there was an unused dark room at school so we started a camera club. We realized we'd have immunity from people checking up on us because if you walk into a darkroom, you ruin the prints.

Of course, we had to learn to print a photo so we'd have something to show if one of our teachers knocked on the door! Then the Yearbook Club heard about us, and they started to request pictures. In order to keep the façade alive, we started to take some photographs. We knew they would be published so I guess pride took over, and we started to care about the quality of the photos. I started to take it seriously and learned to do a decent print.

**You're a photographer, but your work is also incredibly painterly. How do you describe what you do?**

I'm an artist, and my medium is photography. I'm not too worried about conventional ideas of what makes a "good" photograph. I'm

more interested in artistic issues than purely photographic ones. What interests me is: What makes it right? How can I break the rules to make a more interesting image? I love what Ansel Adams and Walker Evans and [Alfred] Stieglitz did, but I'm not interested in replicating their work. I'm not interested in redoing what Robert Frank did. I could never do it better so why go there? What I'm interested in now is, Where can we take this medium?

**You shoot photos with a Century View dating back to 1906 and a camera you made out of a dishwasher box. What do these cameras let you do as a photographer?**

Those are just a couple of the cameras I use. I have a 12-foot camera obscura that I can get into and capture anamorphic images with. I place my film at bizarre angles to the lens plane and then expose it. I use lots of old cameras I've collected, or if I think of an image that requires a camera I don't have or was never made, I make it myself.

Right now I'm not interested in perfect, clean, sharp images. I'm interested in what other optical qualities I can put to the service of image formation. So I put a hole in the box and used a \$5 magnifying glass taped into the hole. I'm making big paper negatives with this crude camera. They're not sharp and clear; they are very raw. The effect is incredible. Chromatic and spherical aberration are giving me effects that would have been judged harshly 50 years ago, but now perhaps people can see the beauty in images formed this way. I'm producing photographs unlike any photograph I have ever seen.

**Your studio is filled with cameras. Do you use them all?**

I've got 200 or 300. Originally, I was collecting them to use them. People know me, so if they're shutting down a darkroom or studio they'll often ask if I want their old

equipment. I bought one from eBay for \$43. It's seven feet long and made of mahogany. It's gorgeous. It was a pick-up only. I drove to the Delaware Water Gap to get it.

**I can't imagine a lot of other photographers using this kind of equipment. You must have been the only bidder!**

There was one other bidder. But yes, I was surprised anyone bid against me! I was actually willing to go up \$100.

**You must have an opinion about digital cameras and cell phones that take photos.**

I've got a lot of opinions! My first opinion is that this is not photography. It's digital imaging. The word photography is made up of two root words: *photo* from the Greek word *pho*, the word for light, and *graphie*, from *graphe* in Greek, which translates to write. So when you say photography you're talking about writing or drawing with light. Just because digital imaging captures an image with a camera people label it photography. It's digital imaging. The final image is printed in ink on a piece of paper, not on a light-sensitive medium. It's a print. Also there's no archived image. There's no negative. There's a CDC chip that takes measurements and those measurements are stored in a computer memory. You can use that information to reconstruct the image you saw or any variation of it you want.

**So do you own a digital camera?**

Yes, of course I do. It's great. You can shoot 1,000 pictures and not spend a lot of money on film and development. But my work that I exhibit is all analogue. I am a process artist and process leads me in new directions. ■

– Interview by Leslie Geary

# Remembering



## Side Lines

# Manute

A sports writer looks back on days with UB's unlikely center.

By Bob Ehalt

One of the joys of being a sports writer is getting a front-row seat for some of life's most incredible moments: processions of joy and heartbreak, success and failure, humor and grief.

Inevitably, there are moments that find a special place in your heart. In the 30 years as a sports writer I will never forget the 1984-85 basketball season I spent absorbing every possible second of the University of Bridgeport men's basketball season as a reporter with the *Norwalk Hour* and then the *Stamford Advocate*.

That year always brought a smile to my face until June 19, when Manute Bol, the unique young man responsible for all of that season's magic and magnetism, passed away from kidney failure at the much too young age of 47.

That one incredible year Bol spent at UB could easily pass as fantasy straight out of Hollywood. Yet it actually happened—a captivating reality show featuring Coach Bruce Webster, a man who drove a limo to support his family; a team of Purple Knights, unknown beyond a 20-mile radius, and a pencil-thin 7-foot, 6-inch center from Sudan.

"We went from small time to tall time," Webster said during that season. "Never in my wildest dreams did I think all of this attention would happen."

Back then, before YouTube and never-ending showings of SportsCenter, the only way to see Bol was to actually attend a UB game. And when people saw Bol, they couldn't forget him.

I learned that when I first met him. I was standing at midcourt inside Harvey Hubbell with Webster when the door leading to the locker room, which was about seven feet high, opened. Someone ducked under it, then started to stand up, and up and up.

As this human broomstick approached me, my jaw dropped. "No, nnn-ooo," is all I could I stutter.



A big part of Bol's legacy was that, with the notable exceptions of trips to Sacred Heart and Southern Connecticut State, where they wore "Bol Busters" T-shirts, rival fans embraced Bol as one of their own.

Once, in a game at Bentley, when the outcome was already decided, the ball came to Bol who was all alone at midcourt. As Bol started to dribble toward the basket, Bentley's best player, Mark Calzonetti, grabbed Bol to stop him from dunking. Calzonetti was rewarded with boos loud enough to come from a vuvuzuela.

A few days before UB's game in Hamden, Webster received an invitation from a Quinnipiac fraternity to attend a post-game party. The Super Bowl was days away and the frat wanted the Purple Knights and a certain 7-foot-6 center to attend a "Super Bol" party.

**Towering legend: Manute Bol, UB's 7-foot, 6-inch center, filled Hubbell Gym in 1984-85.**

*(continued on page 46)*

# Side Lines



**Bol, sometimes reluctant to talk to the media, preferred to share the spotlight with teammates.**

Webster told the frat they would attend only if they won the game and then laughed about the invite with his team. But on the day of the game, Bol refused to board the team bus unless Webster agreed to attend the party.

Finally Webster said, “OK, Manute, we’ll go to the party, but only if we win.”

“Don’t worry about that,” Bol replied as he gave Webster a high-five.

And following an 83-76 UB victory, Webster kept his word and took the team to the party, where about 300 new fans of a Dinka tribesman treated him like royalty. Upon arriving, Bol received a large quart-sized mug with the Los Angeles Olympics logo on it that was filled with beer and a party unlike any other on a college campus that season was under way.

Afterwards, Bol said, “It was a nice party,” with a wide grin. “If we play them again, maybe we’ll party with them again.”

UB did not visit Hamden again, but for a couple of hours a group of Quinnipiac students saw a big, fun-loving



**Bol devoted his later life to humanitarian work, but returned to visit former coach Bruce Webster (second from left).**

kid that was well known only in Bridgeport. Sadly, that side of Bol was not told on a national level until he joined the NBA and reporters spent time with him on a daily basis. At UB, even the best reporters from the biggest media outlets had only brief access to Bol, and there was never a guarantee he would cooperate.

He once bailed out on a shoot for *Sports Illustrated* so he could attend a geology class.

Don Feeley, the former Sacred Heart coach who introduced Bol to Webster, said at the time, *Sports*

*Illustrated* showed up with about \$10,000 in equipment. Anyone else would have died to get their picture in *Sports Illustrated*, but Manute wanted to go to class.”

Jennifer McLogan, who was then a correspondent for the NBC Nightly News, learned about Bol the hard way. One afternoon, late in the season, I was sitting with Bol and his best friends on the team, John O’Reilly and Terry Quinn, at Bol’s favorite restaurant, Famous Pizza. McLogan walked in, cameraman in tow, and went up to Bol, telling him how she had wanted to talk with him for a segment on the NBC Nightly News. All of us brightened at the prospect of being on national television—except Bol.

“I don’t know NBC,” he told her.

Immediately Quinn said, “Manute, you know NBC. It’s channel 4, the A-Team.”

“Oh, the A-Team,” Bol said, his face lighting up as bright as Times Square on New Year’s Eve. “I want you to come up to my apartment and fix my TV. It’s cloudy. I can’t see the A-Team too good.”

McLogan wore a blank look for a few seconds then said, “Ah, Manute, I don’t fix TVs. You’ll have to call a repairman. Now, can we film you here with your friends?”

Bol sulked and said, “No.”

McLogan then asked if she could film him walking back to the campus.

“No,” a stone-faced Bol said.

McLogan did not get her interview until she showed up at Bol’s apartment a few days later with a screwdriver in hand and made an attempt to fix his TV.

A few weeks after the season ended, when Bol met with Webster and told him he was leaving to join the United States Basketball League, tears welled in Webster’s eyes. The year had been such a treasure, and it had gone by too quickly.

Now another 25 years have flown by, and there can be no reunions, no new stories to tell about Manute Bol’s amazing life—just memories.

Thanks for the seat, Manute. ■

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*Bob Ehalt, a copy editor for the New Haven Register, covered the University of Bridgeport basketball season in 1984-85 for the Norwalk Hour and Stamford Advocate. This story contains excerpts from a July 4 article in the Register that can be viewed at [www.nhregister.com/articles/2010/07/04/sports/doc4c2fe67f4cec1540693924.txt](http://www.nhregister.com/articles/2010/07/04/sports/doc4c2fe67f4cec1540693924.txt).*



As point guard, Sidney Parsons averaged nearly ten points a game from 2006-2010.



# Sidney Parsons Goes Pro

**The Purple Knights' point guard packs her bags to play in Germany.**

By Chuck Sadowski

Sidney Parsons, who dazzled fans and teammates alike as UB's standout point guard, has signed a one-year professional contract to play with the SV Halle Lions in Germany.

The Chandler, Arizona, native is the second UB student athlete in the last six months to sign with a professional sports franchise; former baseball pitcher Riley Shuckerow '09 inked a deal with the Bridgeport Bluefish of the Atlantic League of Professional Baseball in April.

During her four-year career at UB, Parsons, 22, started every game from November 2006 through March 2010, averaging nearly ten points and four assists per game. Parsons also is among 13 players in University of Bridgeport women's basketball history to reach 1,000 career points.

"I'm really excited to be able to continue my basketball career, and look forward to experiencing life overseas and being part of the SV Halle club," said Parsons. "Basketball has given me this outstanding opportunity. The experience of having spent the last four years at UB, with all of its diversity, should also serve me well in being able to assimilate to my new surroundings."

Director of Athletics Jay Moran is certain Parsons will be a success. "Sidney is without a doubt one of the hardest working student-athletes on the court and in the classroom I have ever met. Her work ethic and attention to detail will serve her extremely well as she embarks on a professional career in Germany," Moran said. "All of us associated with Bridgeport athletics are proud of her accomplishments and look forward to following her on the next level."

*Viel Glück, Sidney!* ■

## Side Lines

# Stephanie Del Preore to coach women's basketball and cross country teams.

**There will be a new face on the sidelines this season: Stephanie Del Preore has joined the athletics staff as the head coach of the women's basketball and cross country programs.**

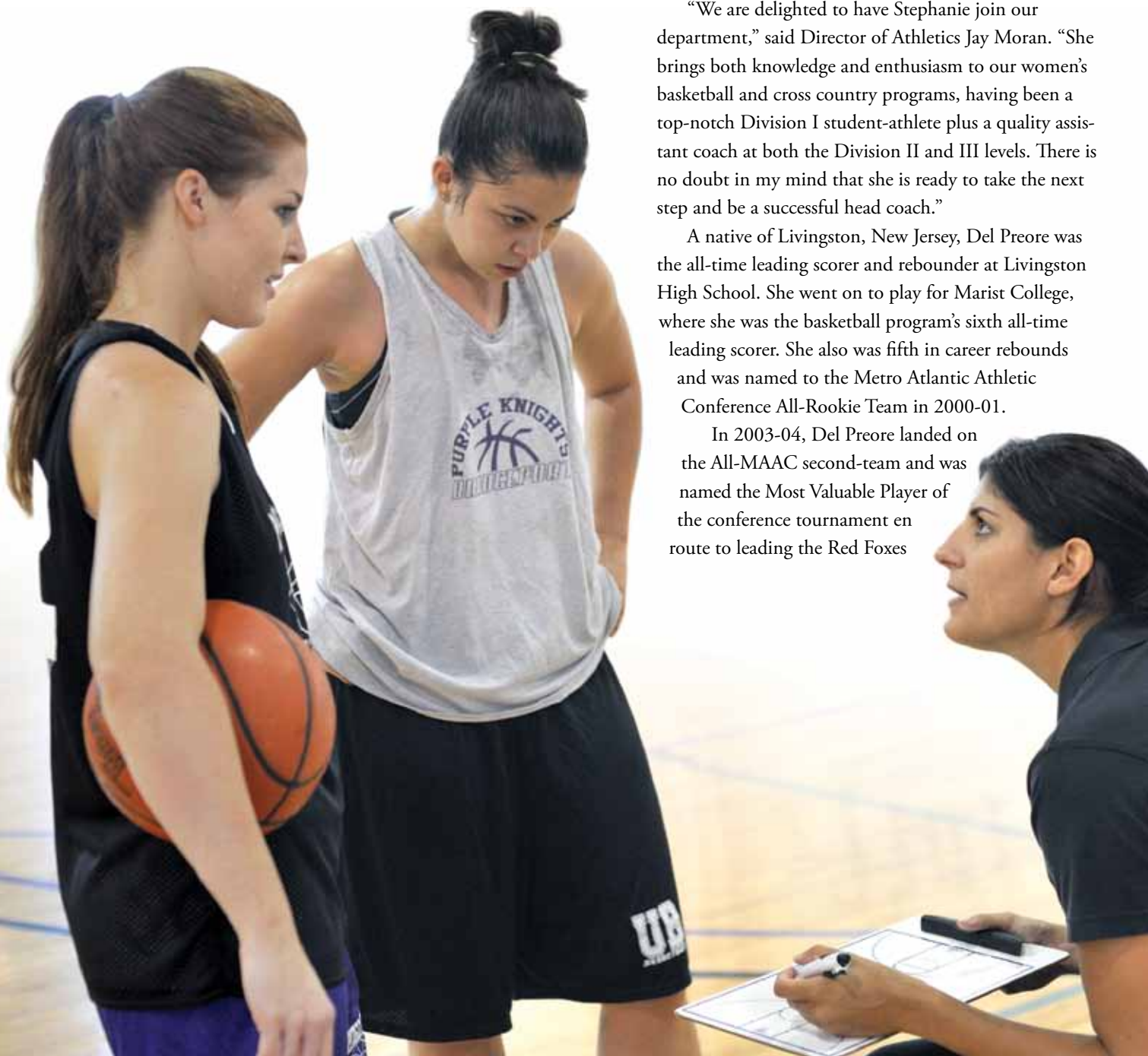
By Chuck Sadowski

Del Preore comes to UB from the Stevens Institute of Technology in Hoboken, New Jersey, where she worked for the past two seasons as an assistant women's basketball coach for the Ducks. She also was the acting head women's basketball coach for the final portion of the 2009-2010 season.

"We are delighted to have Stephanie join our department," said Director of Athletics Jay Moran. "She brings both knowledge and enthusiasm to our women's basketball and cross country programs, having been a top-notch Division I student-athlete plus a quality assistant coach at both the Division II and III levels. There is no doubt in my mind that she is ready to take the next step and be a successful head coach."

A native of Livingston, New Jersey, Del Preore was the all-time leading scorer and rebounder at Livingston High School. She went on to play for Marist College, where she was the basketball program's sixth all-time leading scorer. She also was fifth in career rebounds and was named to the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference All-Rookie Team in 2000-01.

In 2003-04, Del Preore landed on the All-MAAC second-team and was named the Most Valuable Player of the conference tournament en route to leading the Red Foxes



to a berth in the NCAA Tournament. On January 31, 2004 at Rider College, Del Preore scored her 1,000th career point and set a Marist single-game record with 21 rebounds.

Following her outstanding collegiate career, she signed a contract to play professionally with Club Irlandesas in Leioa, Spain. During the 2004-05 season, Del Preore led the squad in scoring, rebounding, and minutes.

After returning to the United States, Del Preore worked as the assistant director at Sports University in Fairfield, New Jersey before going to Solomon Schechter Day School to coach the junior varsity and assistant varsity girls' basketball teams. She was then hired as the assistant women's basketball coach at Division II Caldwell College.

At UB, Del Preore takes over a women's basketball program that posted a 20-10 record last season and received an at-large bid to the NCAA Division II National Championship Tournament. The women's cross country team finished fifth at the East Coast Conference Championship Meet.

"I welcome the challenge of coming to an outstanding institution and athletic program like the University of Bridgeport," stated Del Preore. "I look forward to continuing and expanding upon the successes that the programs have already achieved. I can't wait to get started to help all the student-athletes that are members of the women's basketball and cross country programs be the best they can be in all facets of their lives." ■

## Five Reasons to Follow UB Athletics in 2010-2011

**1 The 25th Anniversary Season of Women's Soccer**  
The UB women's soccer team, which won the East Coast Conference Championship and made its third straight trip to the NCAA Division II Championship in 2009, is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year. The celebration will be highlighted by the annual alumni game at Knights Field on Saturday, October 16 at 2 p.m. The following day, the team will host ECC rival Molloy College at 6 p.m.

**2 ECC Championship Comes To Campus**  
UB is the place to be this year as it hosts the 2010 East Coast Conference men's and women's soccer championship matches and the 2011 ECC men's and women's basketball championship tournament semifinals and finals. The championship matches will be played at Knights Field on Sunday, November 7, with the men's match beginning at 11 a.m. followed by the women's title game at 1 p.m. The ECC basketball semifinals and finals will take place in Hubbell Gym on Saturday and Sunday, March 5 and 6. Men's game times on Saturday are at noon and 7:30 p.m.; women play at 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. Finals take place on Sunday, with the women tipping off at 12 p.m., followed by the men's championship clash at 2:30 p.m.

**3 Men's Basketball to Face UConn**  
Head coach Mike Ruane and the UB men's basketball team will travel to the XL Center in Hartford to face Head Coach Jim Calhoun and the University of Connecticut Huskies in a preseason exhibition game for both teams. Please check the new UB athletics Web site at [www.ubknights.com](http://www.ubknights.com) for the final date and time of this Nutmeg State matchup.

**4 Women's Lacrosse Becomes UB's Newest Varsity Sport**  
After its debut last year as a club sport, the women's lacrosse team will be elevated to varsity status in the spring of 2011. The Purple Knights will play their home games at Knights Field. The team will open the season on March 4 at Post University in Waterbury, Conn., and is schedule to play its home opener on Friday, March 11 against Dominican College.

**5 Baseball Teams Play at Harbor Yard**  
The UB baseball team plays its home games at one of the best facilities in New England: the Ballpark at Harbor Yard. Home games are played from mid-March to early-May. Come out to the beautiful Ballpark and join in the excitement of America's national pastime. Go to [www.ubknights.com](http://www.ubknights.com) for a complete schedule. ■ - C.S.



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## Mark Your Calendar!

**Saturday, October 16:**

***Women's Soccer Team Alumni Match***

milerud@bridgeport.edu  
(203) 576-4727

**Thursday, October 21**

***Denyse Schmidt Exhibition Opening***

mjfoster@bridgeport.edu  
(203) 576-4696



**Saturday, October 23**

***Free Kaplan Graduate School  
Test-Prep Day for Alums***

acologne@bridgeport.edu  
(203) 576-4466

**Wednesday, October 27**

***Fall Job/Internship Fair***

www.bridgeport.edu/career  
(203)576-4466

**Saturday, November 6**

***Athletic Hall of Fame Dinner***

pdoneit@bridgeport.edu  
(203) 576-4017

***Fones Alumni Coffee at CDHA Conference***

tbarnes@bridgeport.edu  
(203) 576-4138

**Thursday, November 11**

***Tri-State Alumni Reception***

rgreenwo@bridgeport.edu  
(203) 576-4151

**Sunday, November 14**

***International College 10th Anniversary  
Alumni Luncheon***

intlcoll@bridgeport.edu  
(203) 576-4966

**Wednesday, December 8**

***University Singers Holiday Concert***

fmartign@bridgeport.edu  
(203) 576-4034

To register for an event, and for times and locations,  
please call or e-mail above contacts.