Student poet attends Bread Loaf Writers’ Conference.

Architecture students use 21st-century technology to reinvent a centuries-old piazza.

UHart Archaeologists unearth ancient mosaic floor in Nazareth, Israel.
LIFE HAPPENS. CIRCUMSTANCES CHANGE. TOUGH DECISIONS MUST BE MADE. Last year, dozens of UHart students appealed for more financial aid. Not all of their needs could be met. This year and next, all gifts to the Anchor Fund will support student financial aid, our students’ greatest and most immediate need.

Please make a gift today.

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DEAR READERS,

The Observer has an international flair in this issue, thanks to projects that took students and professors to Greece, Italy, Lithuania, and Israel. You will read about their discoveries and the new technology used by the archaeologists and architects. Opportunities for students to do classwork in other countries and experience other cultures are truly mind expanding and important preparation for their future success.

The Class of 2019, now all settled in, is the largest entering class since 2009. All of our first-year dorms are full, and it’s great to see so many happy faces. The class jumped right in to participating in traditions like signing their class banner, forming the “Big H” on Gengras lawn, and getting to know the surrounding communities on “Day of Choices.” Their areas of highest interest right now are engineering, health sciences, business, and psychology. But you know that can change.

Were you on campus for Hawktober Weekend? You may see yourself in photos in this issue and/or online. Take a look even if you weren’t here and see the fun. And mark your calendar for next year, October 14-16, 2016.

Please let me know if you have an idea for a story for the Observer. I’m interested in knowing what you’d like to hear about.

Go, Hawks!

Trish Charles
Editor in Chief
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On the cover:
Maha Darawsha, adjunct professor at the University of Hartford, in the excavation pit where she uncovered an ancient tile mosaic floor at an archaeological site in Nazareth, Israel.
In 1957, when University of Hartford founders were discussing the values that should lie at the heart of their new institution, Dorothy Schiro said, “We must never lose focus on those who can benefit most from an education.”

I have thought of that statement many times during my 17½ years as the University’s president, not only because Dorothy Schiro was the daughter of Beatrice Fox Auerbach, a woman who did so much to establish the University on firm footing; not only because Schiro was one of the University’s first regents; but also because she was my Aunt Betty’s best friend in college.

I have often recalled her quotation because it speaks so eloquently and simply about a value that has distinguished this University since its founding: make a world-class education available to deserving students regardless of their ability to pay.

Our early calls for gifts for this purpose have met with very encouraging results. No matter what size gift is made to the Anchor Fund, we are putting it immediately to work to help students who need it most. And I can tell you that those students and their families really appreciate the help.

Running parallel to this campaign for gifts of any size is a decision by my colleagues in Institutional Advancement to designate pledges and gifts to the Anchor Fund in the next two years of $1,000 or more per year as gifts to support “Harrison Scholars.” While I am just a little bit embarrassed to have my name attached to it, I can think of nothing I would rather have my name associated with.

In order to sustain funding for scholarships, we need more than a two-year annual fund campaign. That’s why we are in the midst of a multiyear campaign to raise larger gifts for endowed scholarships. Our original goal was to raise $10 million for this purpose. To date—with two years left—we have raised over $8 million. More is needed. The more we can raise, the more students we can help. You can start a named endowment with a pledge of $25,000 or more. Your gift of $5,000 or more can be directed to the unrestricted scholarship endowment.

My wife, Dianne, and I started a named endowment with our own funds and gifts we received for our 40th wedding anniversary five years ago. The Dianne Harrison Scholarship now provides junior or senior English majors who have an interest in studying British literature with financial help to complete their studies at the University. (You can see my wife’s influence: she is a British literature scholar!)

My interest in scholarship funds, like so much in my life, stems from my mother. In 1932, when she completed high school, she was admitted to Bryn Mawr College. It was the depth of the Depression, so even though she had received a small scholarship from the college, it did not look as if she would be able to attend. Her great-uncle asked her to come to see him one day, and he offered to provide her with the funds she needed to attend, and to graduate from, Bryn Mawr. He later supplied my Aunt Betty with the same financial help.

That example of supporting those who will benefit most has driven me throughout my career in education. Talented students deserve the opportunity to attend a university like ours that can challenge and support them and can prepare them for rich and rewarding careers. I believe that during my tenure here we have done our part in keeping the cost of attendance as low as we possibly can. Now we need your help in providing the funds to those who need them, as my Uncle DeWitt did, to allow deserving students to achieve their dreams.

Please join Dianne and me in giving to the Anchor Fund. I can tell you that our students will never forget your help. Neither will their grateful president.

Walter Harrison
President
THE CLASS OF 2019 ARRIVES

The campus is active and lively this fall, thanks in large part to the 1,538 first-year and transfer students who moved in on the last weekend in August. The new Hawks comprise the largest class of incoming students since 2009. This is an increase of 195 over last year’s new enrollees, according to Guy C. Colarulli, senior associate provost and dean of enrollment management at the University. The increased numbers prompted refurbishing over the summer of first-year residence halls that were not in use by entering students in recent years.

Top right: The Class of 2019 forms the ritual “Big H” on Gengras lawn after Convocation.
Below: Members of the Class of 2019 wear their class T-shirts with the message IMPOSSIBLE is not an OPTION.

NEW DEAN ON CAMPUS

In August 2015, Provost Sharon Vasquez announced the appointment of Caryn Christensen as interim dean of undergraduate learning. This newly created position is in response to the University’s Strategic Plan 2014–19, particularly Goal 1 of the plan, which pertains to challenging and supporting students in a rich environment that prepares them for career success and promotes personal development.

Christensen’s responsibilities include oversight of the All-University Curriculum (AUC) and First-Year Interest Groups (FIGs), review and revision of the AUC to incorporate high-impact practices and essential learning outcomes, design of a support structure to sustain strategic plan initiatives, and the linking of undergraduate academic entities like the Honors Program and the Writing Center to our key strategic initiatives.

Christensen, associate professor of psychology, has served since 2010 as director of AUC and FIGs. In this capacity she was responsible for working with faculty, staff, and administrators of all seven colleges to provide more than 200 interdisciplinary general education courses each year as well as identifying and training faculty who teach integrated course clusters to first-semester students. During Christensen’s time as AUC director, the program introduced many new courses and took the lead in providing online and hybrid experiences for undergraduate students.

To read more about the University’s five-year strategic plan, visit hartford.edu/strategic plan.
A Changing of the Guard
HUMPHREY TONKIN STEPS DOWN AS PRESIDENTS’ COLLEGE DIRECTOR

Along with the new year, January will usher in a change in leadership for the Presidents’ College (PC), the adult-learning community arm of the University of Hartford.

Completing his phased retirement at the end of the 2015 calendar year, Humphrey Tonkin, president emeritus of the University and University Professor of the Humanities, will step down as director of the popular Presidents’ College. Joseph Voelker, professor of English and former dean of the University’s College of Arts and Sciences, will succeed him in the directorship.

“[The Presidents’ College] in the summer of 2006 at something of a time of crisis,” Tonkin recalls. “I jumped in to recruit a group of volunteers to assist in the organization of our activities, forging a link with the University Libraries—without this connection we could not possibly have survived—and [to recruit] the best and brightest as our instructors.”

The Presidents’ College has been a distinctive part of the University’s community outreach for 25 years. Its program of noncredit short courses, travel, and other intellectual pursuits boasts a current enrollment of more than 2,000 “fellows,” as PC members are called. For those adults who value the life of the mind, succulent offerings like this fall semester’s “Japanese Art and Culture,” “Issues in 21st-Century Policing and Community Policing,” “The Afghan-Persian Musical Tradition,” and “A Roundup of the U.S. Supreme Court’s 2014 Term” are but a sampling of the topics that keep participants coming back for more. In conjunction with the current Japanese art and culture course, the Presidents’ College is offering a trip to Kyoto and regional art and cultural sites at the end of May 2016.

Summarizing his tenure as PC director, Tonkin says, “I think we have helped put the University of Hartford on the map in the larger community by providing high-quality programming to an ever-wider group of people. Many have become loyal supporters of the University, not just through the Presidents’ College but in other ways as well.”

Tonkin is pleased with his successor. “I am lucky to have Joseph Voelker as my successor,” he says. “He knows the University and its faculty really well and has an eye for talent.”

Voelker finds the prospect of his new assignment exciting. “The role of impresario for all these wonderful courses and lectures allows me to interact with this array of dynamic people: scientists, musicians, engineers, dancers, painters, professors, and on and on. And at the same time, I work with these wonderful and enthusiastic volunteers,” he says.

When asked how he intends to steer the direction of the Presidents’ College, Voelker is very clear: “The Presidents’ College has reached its present configuration over 25 years of Humphrey Tonkin’s adventurous experiments. This semester we have 700-plus filled seats in our courses, so radical expansion is not in the cards. My priority is to maintain the intellectual quality and excitement of our courses and events.”

And with that, here’s to the next 25 years of the Presidents’ College.

For a full list of Presidents’ College offerings as well as travel and registration information, see hartford.edu/presidentscollege.

"My priority is to maintain the intellectual quality and excitement of our courses and events."

—JOSEPH VOELKER
CAREER SERVICES MOVE
University Career Services has moved from the third to the second floor of Gengras Student Union to improve both visibility and access. The new, larger space, which is branded similarly to Bates House, the Campus Store, and University Commons, has seen a marked increase in visits. “Prepare students for career success and personal development” is language included in Goal 1 of the University’s Strategic Plan 2014–19, and each school and college is integrating career readiness within its undergraduate academic core.

CAMPUS HOT SPOT FOR A LATTE AND HOMEWORK
Over the summer, Starbucks at the Dorothy Goodwin Café in Mortensen Library received a total makeover, transforming it into a full-service, popular spot for students, faculty, and staff to gather for a sandwich or a drink from the full Starbucks beverage menu. Since opening in August, the café has become a favorite place for a study break between classes.
A GRADUATE IN ONE YEAR

When Nicholas Wollmann ’15 came to campus in fall 2014, he introduced himself to his classmates as a “freshman-senior”—a description that prompted curiosity and a few raised eyebrows. In terms of housing and student life, he was a first-year student, but academically, he was a senior, having already earned more than 90 credits toward college graduation.

Nick majored in computer science and minored in math in the University’s College of Arts and Sciences and graduated with a Bachelor of Science summa cum laude this past May. Because he had attended the University High School of Science and Engineering (UHSSE) magnet school on the University’s campus, he had been able to take three or four college-level classes per semester since his sophomore year in high school.

Founded in 2004, UHSSE is a partnership between the University and Hartford Public Schools. Its curriculum is based on the “Early College” model, in which students can take classes and earn credit for college courses while still in high school. To qualify, students have to be recommended by the high school, and University professors have to agree to take the students into their classes. Nick earned about 70 credits from the courses he took at UHart, another 25 credits at UConn, and additional credits from advanced-placement exams—all before leaving high school. That left just a few credits needed in order to graduate from college.

“I was surprised to be able to get it all done in one year, but I’m really glad with the way it worked out,” says the 19-year-old from Burlington, Conn.

Nick now works full time on software development at Cigna, just down the street from the University. The job is the result of a career-development internship he landed—also while in high school. He plans to take at least a one-year break from academics before taking classes part time toward a master’s degree.

How does a teenager stay motivated to do high-school, college, and internship work all at the same time? “The key was how much I enjoyed it. I enjoyed the challenge that came with the courses I took,” Nick says.

He started teaching himself computer science when he was in the eighth grade, and he was hungry to learn more. He says his teachers at UHSSE and the University really encouraged and supported his passion. In his final semester at UHart, he did an independent study with Carolyn Pe Rosiene, professor of computer science, and helped her design course materials and strategies for assignments in a course.

“At such a young age, Nick showed so much potential, grasping concepts very quickly. As a freshman-senior, he assisted in my class by developing the graphical interface and backbone to complete some Flappy Bird-like code to challenge a freshman programming class,” says Rosiene. “Nick has been an exceptional and extraordinary student.”

Asked if he thought he might regret not spending more time living “the college life,” Nick says, “That might be something I think about 15 or 20 years from now, but I am really fine with where I am right now.” After all, in 20 years he will only be 39.
A COLLEGE INTERNSHIP—REWARDING AND AWARDED

Sixty-two percent of the University of Hartford’s recent graduates had internships that provide valuable exposure to careers of possible interest. During the spring 2015 semester, Lenny Curtis A’14, ’16, spent every Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and Monday working at a high-level internship with Staples. The Hillyer College graduate and Barney School of Business marketing major spent part of his time at the retail chain’s headquarters in Framingham, Mass., shadowing executives, learning about corporate culture, and taking part in strategic planning and analyses aimed at helping Staples maintain a competitive advantage in the marketplace.

Lenny spent the rest of his time at the retail level, working with a district manager at Staples’ eight stores in western Massachusetts and southern Vermont. On the retail side, he learned about the stores’ day-to-day operations, analyzed store sales, helped determine staffing levels for different time periods, and helped find new opportunities for market penetration—all while carrying a full load of classes.

It’s no wonder, then, that he was awarded the Hartford-Springfield Economic Partnership’s student InternHero Award, which was presented in June “for overall excellence as a student intern, accomplishing both the educational goals of the internship and the unique work of the employer.”

Being the busy young man that he is, Lenny was not able to attend the award ceremony because, as co-chair of the Berkshire County Central South Relay for Life, he and a team of Staples supervisors and employees were taking part in that fight-against-cancer fundraiser. Barney faculty member Celia Lofink accepted the award on his behalf.

“My internship with Staples was incredible,” Lenny said. “This internship was life-changing and gave me the confidence and experience that I desperately sought.”

Lenny expects to graduate in December 2015, a semester ahead of schedule, and he has accepted a job at Berkshire Bank, where he worked last summer and part time during the fall semester.

PHOTOJOURNALIST TAKES ON SOCIAL ISSUES: MATT EICH MFA’16

Matt Eich, a 29-year-old photojournalist from Norfolk, Va., learned in September that he would receive $10,000 from the 2015 Getty Images Grants for Editorial Photography. His project, Carry Me Ohio, includes work from 2006 to 2012 that covers the effects of poverty, heroin, and the oil and gas industries in southeastern Ohio. It will be published next year in book form by Sturm & Drang.

Matt is a second-year student in the International Low-Residency MFA in Photography program at the University’s Hartford Art School. This is his second grant from Getty Images. In 2013, he received $10,000 for an earlier work, Sin and Salvation in Baptist Town, on race in Greenwood, Miss.

The Getty Images Grants for Editorial Photography, established in 2005, support photojournalists working on personal projects and documenting important but underreported stories. Each photographer selected receives $10,000.
A professional illustrator, graphic artist, and art teacher, Brian Bowes M’16 is also a student enrolled in the Low-Residency MFA in Illustration program offered by the University’s Hartford Art School. He arrived on the University of Hartford campus this past July from his home in Santa Cruz, Calif., to begin his second of three two-week residencies. With him he carried the magical results of a yearlong book project.

When Brian was an undergraduate art major about 10 years ago, one of his drawing teachers asked him what he wanted his work to achieve. Perhaps with a bit of bravado, Brian said that he wanted his work “to last for 100 years.” As it turns out, he is about to get his wish.

“The low-residency MFA at the Hartford Art School seems just perfect to me. I have a studio in a complex with 50 other artists, but I rarely come across another illustrator,” says Brian. “The two weeks of the residency were amazing. I found the faculty and other people in the class super supportive. Not only was I getting feedback from my peers but also from people I look up to, like [HAS Professor of Illustration] Dennis Nolan and [MFA program Director] Murray Tinkelman.”

The book that Brian brought with him, The Story of the Fisherman—one of the many stories in the Arabian Nights—is a limited-edition, letterpress book that is hand bound, hand colored, and illustrated by Brian. While he drew the black line illustrations, Peggy Gotthold of Foolscap Press did the accordion binding, and Larry Van Velzer, also of Foolscap Press, did the printing. The text is a translation from the Arabic by Edward William Lane. The larger image spreads are all hand colored by Gotthold with an age-old technique called pochoir (French for “stencil”), and Brian hand-paints each title page and smaller details throughout the book. Gotthold also hand-makes each box that the books come in.

In all editions of the Arabian Nights, there is a common frame story that involves the ruler of the Persian Empire, King Shahrayar, and Shahrazad, daughter to the king’s own vizier. The core scene is the king’s bedchamber. The king has sworn to work his way through all the virgins of his kingdom, putting each to death the following morning because his former queen (and therefore all women, in his view) was without virtue.

Although Shadrazad is the new bride for the night, destined to die at sunrise after spending just a single night in the king’s bed, she has a plan. Each night, she tells the king a story that ends with a cliffhanger, and that is what keeps her alive. The king has to wait until the next night to hear the end of the tale.

“The overall design, the images, the way that the book is presented all grew naturally from the nesting nature of the Arabian Nights tales,” says Brian.

The partnership came about when Gotthold and Van Velzer attended an Artists’ Open Studios event in Santa Cruz and happened to wander into Brian’s studio. Their conversation led to a lunch and eventually to the idea of doing a book together, which then became The Story of the Fisherman.

The Story of the Fisherman has beautiful illustrations printed in a dark-blue ink and colored using a cool palette of colors. Nested within the fisherman’s story are many other tales. These stories are each printed and colored in their own palettes of brown or green. This subtle design choice indicates the level of the nested story and helps guide the reader.

“Over the course of the past year, I have been doggedly working on a project that is one of the most beautiful projects that I have ever had the honor of being a part of,” says Brian. “This book has already found a home in many university libraries across the United States as well as abroad. A copy is now in the Special Collections at Stanford University Library, and I am very proud to say that a copy is going to the U.S. Library of Congress Rare Book and Special Collections Division.”

And that copy of The Story of the Fisherman should be around for at least 100 years.
“This book has already found a home in many university libraries across the United States as well as abroad. A copy is now in the Special Collections at Stanford University Library, and I am very proud to say that a copy is going to the U.S. Library of Congress Rare Book and Special Collections Division.”

—Brian Bowes MFA’16

TOP ROW: Left, the fisherman releases the demon from the bottle; right, the demon threatens to kill the fisherman.

MIDDLE: One of the “nested” stories within the book is the tale of King Yunan and the sage, Duban.

BOTTOM: The accordion spine (right) of the book allows it to be stretched out to more than 6 feet (above).
When Selia Linowes ’15 received the email telling her she had been accepted to this past summer’s Bread Loaf Writers’ Conference, her reaction was a storm of emotions. “First I put my hands over my mouth and started to cry. Then I called to my partner, Morgan, and told her that I got in. We started jumping up and down and screaming.”

The prestigious graduate-level writing program at Middlebury College’s School of English in Ripton, VT., accepted only 26 percent of applicants, according to Selia. She was one of only eight undergraduates out of nearly 200 participants.

Selia, who will graduate from the University in December, is majoring in English with a creative writing emphasis. She says she only began writing seriously when she started taking poetry courses from Ben Grossberg, associate professor of English and director of the creative writing program, during her second year. She worked on the poems she submitted with her application to Bread Loaf in classes she took from Grossberg, whom she considers her mentor.

Selia’s adventure began when she applied to Bread Loaf as an assignment for the English Capstone in Creative Writing course taught by T. Stores, also an associate professor in the Department of English and Modern Languages. The class, offered in the spring 2015 semester, is designed as a career-building experience.

“One of my capstone requirements is that students submit creative work to journals, conferences, workshops, and residencies multiple times, [or] almost every week, during the semester,” says Stores.

“Students learn how to format work and write cover letters, and they set up a system to track their submissions and begin sending work out,” Stores explains. “I always tell them to aim for both aspirational journals and those that have somewhat better odds for acceptance of work, and usually several achieve publication in small literary journals by the end of the semester.”

Bread Loaf has a long tradition of gathering emerging writers like Selia to work closely with a diverse and talented faculty. Attendees experience the intensity—and challenge—of working under the guidance of notable writers.

Selia was assigned to a 10-person workshop led by poet Tom Sleigh, whose many awards include the John Updike Award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, the Kingsley Tufts Award, and the Shelby Prize from the Poetry Society of America. He is a Distinguished Professor in the MFA program at CUNY—Hunter College in Manhattan.

“I loved working with Tom Sleigh,” says Selia. “I was thrilled to be in his workshop.” Asked if he was tough with her about her work, she says yes, but that the critiques within the class had to be constructive. “When I met with him one-on-one, he was a little harsher. But I loved that. You want your work to be effective. He gave me wonderful feedback that I will apply to my future work.”

As it turned out, August was a very big month for Selia. She had submitted three poems to the online Crab Fat Literary Magazine earlier. “I found out that the poems had been accepted about a week before I got the email that I had been accepted to Bread Loaf.

“I’ve been inspired by this experience to apply to other conferences,” she says, adding that the Bread Loaf experience helped her become comfortable introducing herself as a poet.
When Ron Campo ’80, senior business consultant at Aetna’s headquarters in Hartford, was looking for summer interns, he reached out to Donald Jones, associate professor in the College of Arts and Sciences and director of the University Honors Program.

Aetna has a large, structured internship program and a university relations team that recruits potential interns. Campo, a member of the College of Arts and Sciences advisory board, knew that students in the honors program have committed to do rigorous coursework and research, making them a good source of student talent.

“My previous experience with the honors program introduced me to many bright young people capable of taking on work assignments at Aetna,” Campo says. The relationship between Aetna and the University is one of several corporate partnerships that often lead to internships and employment for students.

“I initially was surprised by Mr. Campo’s interest in having honors students in diverse majors apply for internships and employment at Aetna,” says Jones. “Then I realized that they perfectly matched the desired skills: critical thinking, written communication, interpersonal relations, and time management.”

As a result of Campo’s query, communication majors Melissa Yellen ’16 and Parnian Emami ’16 completed internships at Aetna last summer, and both have continued working part time there during the fall semester. Jairus “Jay” Baker ’17, an economics and finance major in the University’s Barney School of Business, completed a summer internship in Aetna’s program for finance interns. He has been invited back for another internship in the summer of 2016.

Several recent graduates who were in the University Honors Program have been hired by Aetna for full-time positions. That’s a sign of the program’s growing reputation. In recent years, University honors students have been invited to present their research at a highly selective national conference, have been accepted to top graduate programs, and have been offered good jobs. To graduate with University Honors, students must complete 18 credits of honors coursework as well as a senior project or thesis.

Melissa’s internship is in Campo’s department, Life Operations, in the area of worksite marketing. Her duties include researching promotional items and marketing tools for events like employee benefits fairs, to make sure they align with Aetna’s brand.

Parnian’s internship as an eligibility consultant is also in the Life Operations department. Her duties include researching policy documents to determine the eligibility of people who file claims. She also gets involved in event planning, which is one of the areas she would like to pursue after graduation.

Both Melissa and Parnian say they love the people and the culture at Aetna, which they describe as very caring and positive, and they appreciate the opportunity to work at a large corporation to see if it is a good fit for them.

“The experience I’ve gotten there is priceless,” Parnian says.

Jay was contacted about his internship by an Aetna recruiter through LinkedIn. He was accepted into Aetna’s finance internship program, which last summer included 35 interns from across the country.

Assigned to the Corporate Risk Management department, he did large-scale data analysis, particularly in the area of workers’ compensation. He will return to the program next summer, and after graduating in 2017, he may be offered a spot in Aetna’s three-year Financial Leadership Development Program.

Melissa, Parnian, and Jay have high praise for the University Honors Program, saying that they enjoy the small classes, challenging material, and the program’s emphasis on critical thinking and looking at things from different angles. They say the program has given them great preparation for the workplace, and Campo agrees.

“I plan to continue working with the honors program at the University of Hartford to tap into this pool of incredible talent,” Campo says. “Honors program interns have experienced great success working here, and we have benefited from their unique contributions and perspectives.”
Faces of people standing in the piazza look up, peering into the sky to find the source of a buzzing sound. Some are local residents drawn out onto the Piazza del Carmine and into the March sunshine by curiosity. Others are students in the University of Hartford’s Master of Architecture program in the College of Engineering, Technology, and Architecture.

“Here it comes,” yells one of the students as they practice maneuvering the drone over the area of the Piazza del Carmine. The drone comes with an app that allows one of the students to use a smartphone to direct the camera on board. Another student uses a remote control to guide the drone. After a bit of practice, they have learned to coordinate their adjustments. The students are in Florence, Italy, on an assignment for their graduate architectural design studio course, taught by Imdat As, assistant professor of architecture.

Twenty-one graduate architecture students spent spring break 2015 studying centuries-old structures using 21st-century technology. In addition to the assignment at Piazza del Carmine, the students also traveled to nearby Fiesole, an Etruscan town north of Florence that was founded in the ninth to eighth centuries BC; visited an archaeological site and a Roman theater; and hiked to the pietra serena (sandstone) quarries of Monte Ceceri, which were mined beginning in the Etruscan period.

The group visited approximately two dozen different piazzas in the city of Florence before settling on the Piazza del Carmine for study. When they arrived, the underutilized piazza was functioning primarily as a neighborhood parking lot—something the city of Florence wanted to change. The primary goal of the assignment was to rethink the use of the piazza and come up with new plans.

In the past, the students would have taken photographs of the piazza, measured distances by hand with tapes, and made sketches. All that changed when they unpacked the drone, which arrived in the mail the day before the group set off for Florence.
It was Professor As who suggested incorporating a camera-mounted drone. As it turned out, there were multiple benefits. “With the drone, the students were able to take elevations on all the surrounding buildings quite easily and even from the rooftops, which normally would not be possible,” says As. “The drone took photographs and video, and greatly improved the accuracy of the measurements while saving time.”

“The drone is a new tool that allows architects to render the built world that they work in,” agrees Michael J. Crosbie, professor and chair of the Department of Architecture. “This technology is already becoming indispensable for architecture students to capture views of existing buildings and urban spaces, survey sites, replicate building details, and see architecture in new and exciting ways.”

The students were divided into four teams—one team surveyed the site, prepared building-use and building-height maps as well as landmark, open-space, and public-transit maps and the like; another team prepared digital 3D models and did digital surveys; the third team built the physical model; and the fourth traced the history of the site by collecting historical maps and photos to show the site’s development over time.

Notable among the historic buildings surrounding the piazza is the medieval Church of Santa Maria del Carmine (begun in 1268), from which the piazza takes its name. Also present are retail shops, residences, and commercial businesses.

One of the project requirements was to solve the need for parking by designing an underground garage with the capacity for 200 cars. Many of the students also incorporated a performance space on the piazza for concerts.

After returning from Italy, the students spent the rest of the semester completing their designs. They used software to stitch together photos taken by the drone to create 3D images. Those images were used to print 3D models, based on their plans, using the 3D printers in the architecture studio. Students each developed a separate plan, and their work was reviewed by a jury of faculty and working architects at the end of the semester.

“The history, culture, and people helped inspire my design for the Piazza del Carmine,” says William Preskenis MArch’16. “The umbrellas [on the piazza] were designed after the red Florentine Lily, which is one of the most recognized and iconic symbols throughout Florence. I noticed it on historic structures as well as monuments during my travels. The umbrella was to take the form of the lily. The six-sided hexagon form was to mirror the petals of the lily. It became clear that the site should be designed to fully embrace this iconic symbol.”
On a warm June day in summer 2015, Maha Darawsha stepped down into a 6-foot-deep excavation hole at an archaeological site in Nazareth, Israel. Kneeling in the pit, she began to remove a final layer of dirt, revealing an incredible sight: an ancient, predominately blue and white tile mosaic floor that is an important part of world history.

The mosaic floor appears to be from one of the earliest churches in the history of Christianity and was uncovered at the Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox). The team of archaeologists was led by Professor Richard Freund and Adjunct Professor Darawsha of the University of Hartford and Professor Shalom Yanklowitz of the University of Haifa in Israel. Collaborating with the University of Hartford on the project are Professor and Dean Philip Reeder from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, Pa., and Professor Harry Jol from the University of Wisconsin, Eau Claire. The site is licensed by the Israel Antiquities Authority.

The Church of the Annunciation is recognized by Christians worldwide as a shrine of great significance dating back to the origins of what became Christianity. According to ancient belief, the Archangel Gabriel “announced” the forthcoming birth of Jesus to Mary at a spring or well that she was visiting. It became the place where Greek Orthodox officials located their church in the Byzantine period. The church was destroyed multiple times and rebuilt there in the pre-modern period.

The mosaic floor is thought to have been created in the fourth century, when Queen Helena, mother of Roman Emperor Constantine the Great, came to the Holy Land to establish Christian pilgrim sites for the new religion of Rome.
“The mosaic floor is beautifully decorated with multiple stylized crosses and iconography,” Freund says. The floor was discovered as a result of ground-penetrating radar and electrical resistivity studies sponsored by the University of Hartford.

Darawsha is credited with finding the magnificent mosaic floor, and she spoke about the find at a press conference organized at the site by the Greek Orthodox Bishop of Nazareth in mid-June. She was born just outside of Nazareth and teaches Arabic language and culture and archaeology at UHart. She is also a faculty member at the University of Connecticut in Arabic language and culture.

Freund, who is the director of the Maurice Greenberg Center for Judaic Studies and Greenberg Professor of Jewish History at UHart, notes that “the bishop and the entire Greek Orthodox community are very excited by the discovery of the ancient mosaic. The church is already preparing the site for pilgrims and visitors. They are putting in glass viewing stations [through which one] will be able to see the mosaic beneath.”

Two UHart seniors, Judaic studies majors Arieh Fried ’16 and Zosh Simonson ’16, had the incredible experience of being brought to Nazareth by Freund to help out at the site. They had been working at the Bethsaida archaeological site in northern Israel for about a month before.

Zosh admits that he didn’t initially understand how significant this find was. “But when we were told that we couldn’t take any pictures at the site, we realized something was up.”

They began assisting the archaeologists and others at the site by removing buckets of dirt. As they listened to the people around them, Arieh says they began to get a sense of how important the mosaic floor was.

Despite the summer heat, the young men say they enjoyed their experiences at both the Nazareth and Bethsaida archaeological sites. Zosh says he would like to go back and work at the Nazareth site next summer, although he thinks his ultimate career path will involve working in the Jewish community. Arieh, who says he enjoys the research aspects of archaeology, has begun applying to graduate schools to study museum administration.

While both students have been to Israel numerous times, this past summer was the first time they had gone to work at an archaeological site for Freund. In addition to their time at Bethsaida and Nazareth, the students and Freund visited other well-established archaeological sites in Israel.

For the past 14 years, Richard Freund has pursued his primary area of interest, Biblical archaeology. The director of the Maurice Greenberg Center for Judaic Studies, Greenberg Professor of Jewish History at the University of Hartford, and director of the University’s Nazareth Excavation, he has worked in the Nazareth area on the Mary’s Well and Bathhouse Project, the Church of the Annunciation, and Mary’s Cave, on behalf of the Greek Orthodox Church, the Arab Orthodox Council, and the Israeli Antiquities Authority. The work has tracked archaeological remains from the Roman period to the Byzantine and Crusader eras to the modern period.

The Nazareth Excavations Project is just one of many conducted by Freund. He has directed six archaeological projects in Israel—including at Bethsaida, Qumran, the Cave of Letters, Yavne, and Har Karkom (Mount Sinai)—and three projects in Europe: the mapping of a former Nazi extermination camp at Sobibor, Poland; the Great Synagogue in Vilna, Lithuania; and the potential site of the Lost City of Atlantis off the coast of Spain.

Freund is the author of six books on archaeology, most recently Digging through History: Archaeology and Religion from Atlantis to the Holocaust (Rowman & Littlefield, 2012), as well as two books on Jewish ethics, and has appeared in more than a dozen television documentaries.

Fluent in 10 languages, Freund earned his bachelor’s degree in Judaic studies at Queens College in Flushing, N.Y. He received his master’s degree in Talmud and Rabbinics and his PhD in philosophies of Judaism from The Jewish Theological Seminary in New York City.
DIGGING INTO THE PAST UNLOCKS STUDENT’S FUTURE

Nicole Awad is a very grateful young woman. “I feel so blessed to have people like Professor Richard Freund in my life. Being at the University of Hartford has been life-changing for me,” says the junior from New Canaan, Conn.

In her work with Freund—the University’s Greenberg Professor of Jewish History and a world-renowned archaeologist—Nicole has worked on projects ranging from attempts to uncover a 17th-century stockade fort at Griswold Point in Connecticut to being part of an excavation team in Rhodes, Greece. This past summer, she worked with a team that discovered and mapped the subsurface of the 17th-18th-century Great Synagogue of Vilna in Lithuania, a project that garnered worldwide attention for the team and for Nicole, whose picture using the ground-penetrating radar equipment at the site was included with most of the news stories.

Although she laughs about the attention she has received, she acknowledges how special her experiences have been. “The opportunities are amazing,” she says, noting that she is now presenting papers at conferences and is able to talk to other archaeologists on a peer-to-peer basis. “Now I’m having conversations with people that I looked up to before,” she says.

Born in Lebanon, Nicole says she has always wanted to be an archaeologist and that she was drawn to the University of Hartford because of the possibility of being able to work on Freund’s project. “When I started, I asked a million questions; by the Lithuania project, I was mapping a whole site.”

She calls Freund and the other faculty in the University’s history department “inspiring role models,” not just because of the work they are doing, “but you can also ask them as many questions as you want. And the fact that they involve us in their work, even though we are just students, is incredible.”

Freund has great praise for his students: “I have seen some of the finest work by any undergraduates anywhere in the projects by students from the University of Hartford. It is not just geoscience and archaeology. It is history, anthropology, art history, chemistry, and allied sciences. If you attend our Undergraduate Colloquium in the spring, you can listen to a project presentation that ranks up there with presentations by graduate students at professional conferences. Niki’s presentations have been especially awe-inspiring. She will be listed as a coauthor on the next set of our publications.”

Nicole also includes Maha Darawsha, Freund’s former graduate student and now an adjunct professor of archaeology and Arabic language and culture at UHart, in that group that inspires her. Nicole says her father wasn’t initially thrilled with her decision to pursue a career in archaeology because he was worried that there are so few women in the field. However, after seeing Nicole working with Darawsha, “my dad is now behind me 100 percent,” she says.

Nicole plans to attend graduate school to continue her studies in archaeology. She will be with Freund this winter and spring when he returns to Rhodes, and she plans to accompany him to Israel and Lithuania in summer 2016. In addition to the great Synagogue project, she also wants to work on the Church of the Annunciation project in Nazareth.

The Jewish community of Lithuania was one of the most significant centers of Jewish life in the world before World War II, with a population of several hundred thousand Jews that spread from the Baltic Sea to Russia in the east. The Great Synagogue of Vilna and its massive campus were the hub of this dynamic Jewish life.

Freund and the team—Professor Philip Reeder, dean of the Bayer School of Science at Duquesne University; Professor Harry Jol of the University of Wisconsin–Eau Claire; Joan Silber, a member of the U.S. Commission for the Preservation of America’s Heritage Abroad; and students Nicole and Alexis Pingel from the University of Wisconsin–Eau Claire—have mapped the subsurface of the now-buried Great Synagogue, including an entrance and steps into the synagogue, the central shrine for the Torah scrolls, the bemah (the area where services are led), and the Jewish bathhouse and ritual bath system attached to the complex, all located 4 to 8 feet below street level.

Says Freund, “We are pioneering a new way of doing archaeology, and Nicole will be on the cutting edge of archaeological studies wherever she goes.”
When it comes to education, Dianna Wentzell EdD’10 has seen it all. She’s taught high school and middle school in the suburbs and served as an administrator for Hartford Public Schools and the Capitol Region Education Council. In the spring of 2015, she became Connecticut’s education commissioner. From the Common Core State Standards to differences among school districts, Wentzell has the expertise and experience to address any questions that come her way. And she says the University’s Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership program helped make it possible.

“What I really appreciated about the program was that it was cohort-based,” she says. “And it wasn’t only limited to people who were already in education. There were people from nursing, business, and other professions. That really appealed to me, and I would definitely say that was one of the real strengths of the program. I learned so much more than I would have in a straightforward kindergarten-through-12th-grade program.”

Wentzell also appreciated her advisor, Donn Weinholtz, professor of educational leadership in the University’s College of Education, Nursing and Health Professions, for being flexible and supportive while she worked on her dissertation.

“He let me meet with him every two weeks, instead of three, which for him meant more work,” she says. “He was great. He always was so prepared. We were a good fit. I would advise [those] trying to do advanced work to make sure their mentors and advisors are a good fit. There can be great people who just aren’t the right fit.”

Wentzell didn’t always plan to become a teacher. She majored in Russian studies at Mount Holyoke College. But when she graduated, she decided to explore education as a career and went on to earn her master’s in educational leadership from the University of Massachusetts. She started teaching the year she earned her degree.

Although she didn’t necessarily realize it when she was a child, Wentzell now credits her third-grade teacher for inspiring her to become an educator. She hopes to encourage the next generation of role models during her time as commissioner.

“I’d really like to shine a spotlight on education as a really exciting, engaging, and dynamic field,” she says. “It’s really hard work, but it’s fun work. It’s never the same thing twice. For people that really need a lot of stimulation, education is a great career.”

Wentzell’s daughter, Nadia, could be one of those people. She studied education before graduating in June 2015 from University High School of Science and Engineering (UHSSE) on the UHart campus. Wentzell had the pleasure of presenting Nadia with her diploma. Wentzell’s son, Charles, graduated from UHSSE in 2012 as the school’s first National Merit Scholar.

Wentzell, who has three other children, says today’s students may have future careers that don’t even exist today.

“The kids we’re teaching now are going to be in careers that haven’t been invented yet,” she explains. “I’m already seeing that happen. When I taught 30 years ago, we didn’t even have the Internet. Think of how many people have jobs in that field. They have jobs we couldn’t have imagined. [We have to think] a lot more about what skills are going to make our kids successful in whatever their future will bring so that they can be in the driver’s seat.”
THERE'S A NEW HAWK IN TOWN

On a warm summer evening at one of Hartford’s trendy new restaurants by the riverfront, a new era of Hartford athletics arrived.

For the first time in 25 years—when the University’s Sports Center opened its doors—the Hartford Hawks have a new look.

On July 28, Nix’s Restaurant was packed to capacity with just about every UHart constituency represented. But on this night, the star of the show would be a bird.

University President Walter Harrison and Director of Athletics Anton Goff unfurled a 10-foot banner that revealed the new primary mark, which features a profile shot of a bright-red hawk soaring between two upright columns to complete an italicized H. Next, the Hartford Hawks head coaches in attendance uncovered a second banner that showed the new secondary logo featuring a straight-on view of a red hawk, talons up, edging the Hartford Hawks wordmark forward.

“We are all very excited. The new Hawks logo is a powerful representation of where our athletics program is headed,” said Goff. “Like never before, we are ready for Hawk Nation Domination!”

The new suite of logos was created by the University’s branding agency, Philadelphia-based 160Over90, which worked collaboratively over seven months with UHart coaches, administrators, alumni, student-athletes, and students to develop a concept, conduct research, and then create and execute a design that embodies the University’s athletic history and its vision for the future.

“This new logo and identity is the product of a shared vision for greatness,” said Harrison at the unveiling. “I’m confident that this will propel us forward and set the direction for the next generation of Hartford Hawks.”

The new look is adaptable across multiple platforms, including digital, broadcast, and on athletic gear and apparel. The new logo is now painted on the court in the Chase Arena and has taken its place high atop the exterior of the Reich Family Pavilion.

Watch a video of the H being placed on the Sports Center at hartford.edu/athleticslogo.

WOMEN’S SOCCER

Concluding the 2015 campaign with an 11-4-4 mark, the Hawks have posted double-digit wins in each of the last five seasons and are back-to-back regular-season champions in the America East Conference. Head coach John Natale is now tied with former head coach Austin Daniels as the program’s winningest coach.

HAWKS TO ADD WOMEN’S LACROSSE, DROP TENNIS

University of Hartford Director of Athletics Anton Goff announced in October that the University will add women’s lacrosse for the 2017–18 season and will discontinue men’s and women’s tennis in the spring of 2016. The decision was made in consultation with University leadership, the board of regents, and other University department leaders and after a yearlong examination of budget, fundraising, facilities, and trends in intercollegiate athletics.

“This was a very difficult decision to make,” Goff said. “However, with the challenges that weather presents in the Northeast and our current facilities [for tennis], the financial commitment needed to be competitive on a national level is not feasible for us.

“Women’s lacrosse is one of the fastest growing sports in the nation,” Goff continued. “Seven schools in the America East Conference already have teams, and we are committed to being successful competitors in our conference. Our goal in adding women’s lacrosse is to move to full compliance with Title IX.”

All tennis student-athletes who have remaining eligibility in 2016 will be granted full releases if they want to transfer. Those who receive athletics financial aid will have their scholarships honored if they stay at the University.
FORMER HAWK RUNNER WINS HARTFORD MARATHON

Jonas Hampton '11 was among the first group of students to live in Hawk Hall when the inviting new residence hall located on Alumni Plaza opened its doors in 2007. But even back then, he started thinking about a different milestone.

“I always wanted to [run in the Hartford Marathon], ever since college,” Hampton told the Hartford Courant.

“I would look at the times, and I saw there wasn’t really anyone from Hartford that’s won it in the past. I set a goal for myself back in college that I did want to win either the full or the half.”

On Oct. 10, Hampton not only ran in the Eversource Hartford Marathon for the first time—competing in his first full marathon anywhere—he won it. The 26-year-old former Hawks’ track and cross-country standout crossed the finish line in 2:15:58 to beat his closest competition by two minutes.

Hampton thus became the first Connecticut resident to win the Hartford men’s marathon in the 22-year history of the event. He shook loose from defending champion Matt Pelletier between miles 14 and 15 on the 26.2-mile course en route to a first-place finish among 1,899 runners who crossed the finish line.

Currently living in New Britain, Conn., Hampton works as an engineer for the state Department of Transportation.

He previously qualified for the Olympic marathon trials by way of a previous half-marathon time. The 2016 U.S. Olympic Trials will take place on Saturday, Feb. 13, in Los Angeles, Calif.

During his senior season as a Hawk runner in 2010–11, Hampton finished 13th at the America East Cross Country Championships, and placed 15th in the 3,000 meters and 12th in the 5,000 meters at the 2011 America East Indoor Track and Field Championships. He also set a school record outdoors in the 10,000 meters, posting a time of 31:45.65 at the Colonial Relays.

BASKETBALL HALL OF FAME HONORS HAWKS

Heather Weindorfer-Izzi ’97 (A&S) (left) and her husband, Michael, have something else to cheer about following her induction into the New England Basketball Hall of Fame in Worcester, Mass., in August 2015. Other UHart-affiliated individuals who were tapped included alumni Larry Francoise ’71 (Barney); John Graham ’77 (A&S); Chris Calling ’82 (Barney); Mary Jane Besselink-Bravakis A’91, ’93 (ENHP); and Kelly Penwell-Landino ’94 (ENHP).

Former Athletics Director Pat Meiser and Randy LaVigne, current men’s basketball radio analyst and former UConn men’s basketball standout, were also honored.

FOLLOW THE HAWKS ALL SEASON LONG FROM ACROSS THE COUNTRY AND WORLD.

Free video webcasts of all home and conference games. Audio webcasts and live stats for all games. HartfordHawks.com

Local Radio: WDRC 1360-AM (men’s basketball) WWUH 91.3-FM (women’s basketball)

MEN’S BASKETBALL

12/2/2015 Providence Providence, RI 7 p.m.
12/5/2015 Dartmouth Hanover, NH 2 p.m.
12/12/2015 Quinnipiac West Hartford, CT 7 p.m.
12/15/2015 Holy Cross West Hartford, CT 7 p.m.
12/16/2015 Sacred Heart West Hartford, CT 8:30 p.m.
12/22/2015 Widener West Hartford, CT 11 a.m.
12/30/2015 Rider Lawrenceville, NJ 7 p.m.
1/2/2016 Yale West Hartford, CT 7 p.m.
1/4/2016 UMass Lowell * Lowell, MA 7 p.m.
1/15/2016 Binghamton * Vestal, NY 7 p.m.
1/16/2016 Vermont * West Hartford, CT 7 p.m.
1/18/2016 Stony Brook * West Hartford, CT 7 p.m.
1/21/2016 UMBC * Catonsville, MD 7 p.m.
1/24/2016 New Hampshire * Durham, NH 1 p.m.
1/27/2016 Maine * West Hartford, CT 7 p.m.
1/30/2016 Albany * West Hartford, CT 7 p.m.
2/3/2016 UMass Lowell * West Hartford, CT 7 p.m.
2/5/2016 Stony Brook * Stony Brook, NY 7 p.m.
2/11/2016 Binghamton * West Hartford, CT 7 p.m.
2/14/2016 Vermont * Burlington, VT 2 p.m.
2/17/2016 UMBC * West Hartford, CT 7 p.m.
2/20/2016 New Hampshire * West Hartford, CT 7 p.m.
2/24/2016 Maine * Orono, ME 7 p.m.
2/27/2016 Albany * Albany, NY 7 p.m.
3/2, 3/3, 3/12 America East Tournament Games** TBA

**Quarterfinals/Semifinals hosted by Binghamton. Championship game at campus site of higher seed.

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

12/2/2015 Central Connecticut West Hartford, CT 7 p.m.
12/5/2015 Boston College Chestnut Hill, MA 7 p.m.
12/12/2015 Dartmouth West Hartford, CT 7 p.m.
12/15/2015 Arizona State West Hartford, CT 7 p.m.
12/16/2015 UMass Amherst, MA 2 p.m.
12/30/2015 George Washington Washington, DC TBD
1/2/2016 Florida Gulf Coast Fort Myers, FL 7 p.m.
1/1/2016 UMass Lowell * West Hartford, CT 7 p.m.
1/13/2016 Binghamton * West Hartford, CT 7 p.m.
1/19/2016 Vermont * Burlington, VT 2 p.m.
1/20/2016 Stony Brook * Stony Brook, NY 5 p.m.
1/21/2016 UMBC * West Hartford, CT 7 p.m.
1/24/2016 New Hampshire * West Hartford, CT 12 p.m.
1/27/2016 Maine * Orono, ME 7 p.m.
1/30/2016 Albany * West Hartford, CT 2 p.m.
2/2/2016 UMass Lowell * Lowell, MA 7 p.m.
2/5/2016 Stony Brook * West Hartford, CT 7 p.m.
2/10/2016 Binghamton * Vestal, NY 7 p.m.
2/14/2016 Vermont * West Hartford, CT 2 p.m.
2/17/2016 UMBC * Catonsville, MD 7 p.m.
2/20/2016 New Hampshire * Durham, NH 1 p.m.
2/24/2016 Maine * West Hartford, CT 7 p.m.
2/28/2016 Albany * Albany, NY 2 p.m.
3/5, 3/6, 3/11 America East Tournament Games** TBA

*Denotes America East Conference contest. **Quarterfinals/Semifinals hosted by Binghamton. Championship game at campus site of higher seed.

For ticket information for home games, or to purchase tickets online, call the Hawks’ box office at 860.768.HAWK (4295) or visit hartfordhawks.com.

FALL 2015 19
Hawktober

1,554
ALUMNI, PARENTS,
AND FRIENDS IN
ATTENDANCE

See more photos from Hawktober Weekend at hartford.edu/Hawktober2015.
Four outstanding alumni received this year’s Anchor Awards, presented at a dinner during Hawktober Weekend: Kevin Grant ’82, M’86, of Concord, Mass.; Mark Greenberg ’71 of Pearl River, N.Y.; Louise Earle Loomis M’78 of Bloomfield, Conn.; and Claire M. Pryor ’84 of West Hartford, Conn.

Kevin Grant, a certified financial analyst, is the founder of CYS Investments, Inc., a publicly held specialty finance company, and has served as the CEO, president, and chairman of its board of directors since its inception in 2006. He added the title of chief investment officer in 2011. Grant also formed Sharpridge Capital Management LP, which became the company’s internal asset manager in 2011. Prior to that he was vice president and portfolio manager at Fidelity Investments. He has also served as a guest speaker in classes at the Barney School of Business and as an advisor to the University’s Investment Committee.

Mark Greenberg ’71 is a highly respected optometrist who has been in practice since 1975. He specializes in treating children and adults with special needs, especially those with low vision. Greenberg has had a particular focus on the vision needs associated with the challenged athlete. He is a past visual consultant for the U.S. Olympic Team (1981–96) and co-chairman of the visual evaluation team for the International Special Olympics. He was inducted into the University’s Alumni Athletics Hall of Fame in 2009 as a former two-time All-American Club Football student-athlete.

Louise Earle Loomis is a respected and innovative educator, involved community leader, and involved friend of the University. After receiving her master’s from the University in 1977, she taught for several years at Hillyer College and at Harford College for Women. She then founded the New England Cognitive Center in 1998 and the ThinkWell Center LLC in Hartford in 2011. Her involvement as a community leader has led to roles in various arts and educational institutions in Hartford. Most recently she was honored by Family Life Education, Inc., which will name a new, state-of-the-art children’s fitness/wellness center after her.

Claire Pryor ’84 served in the Red Cross in Korea and was a community activist in the 1960s and early ’70s in New York City. When she and her husband, Millard, moved to West Hartford in 1972, they quickly became involved as volunteers in the Girl Scouts, arts and cultural organizations, and charitable organizations. Pryor returned to school in 1978 to pursue a degree in nursing at the University. She has served in leadership roles at the Institute of Living, Hartford Hospital, the Amistad Center for Art and Culture, the Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art and the Hartford Symphony. She and her husband (who died in 2005) have had a large impact on the University as well, by establishing scholarships, serving on boards and committees, and funding various initiatives.
Dear Fellow Alumni,

The University of Hartford Alumni Association belongs to you. While we reap great rewards from having engaged alumni, we also hope that you benefit from what we have to offer. Know that we are working diligently to stay in touch, make connections, and establish ways in which you can be involved. We hope you are enjoying The Link and our Upcoming Events email newsletters. They provide an abundance of relevant and up-to-date information. Please send us your news, personal or professional, for publication in Observer class notes and in Class Notes online on our alumni website. We want the University community to know about the important things happening in our graduates’ lives.

The Alumni Association is more active than ever, with more happening, in more places, and more often. You are the focus of our attention, whether you are involved on campus or participate in one of our alumni chapter events across the country.

We provide opportunities, such as our Alternative Spring Break mentoring program, called Express to Success, for you to share your expertise and the life lessons you have learned. It also gives you the chance to simply lend a hand as a volunteer somewhere within the UHart community. There is no greater reward than being involved and making a difference in the lives of our exceptional students, and it’s great fun too.

We also have options for social enjoyment and your own professional development. You can listen to an outstanding speaker, attend a standout performance (many to choose from), or perhaps reach out to fellow alumni in your professional or business circles in order to advance your career.

It has been a fantastic fall at UHart. Infused by the largest freshman class since 2009, there is a positive energy on campus, and the Alumni Association has been a part of that. We greeted incoming freshmen and their families, distributed the new Traditions publication (also available online), and handed out this year’s special-for-freshmen T-shirts, worn during the formation and photographing of “The Big H” on the lawn, one of the University’s newest traditions.

An enthusiastic and talented group of notable professionals of varied backgrounds joined the Alumni Board this year. Their names are listed below. They join a dynamic, engaged, and dedicated board.

We also honored four among our alumni ranks with Anchor Awards, the highest honor bestowed by the Alumni Association. They are featured in this Observer issue. All are accomplished in their fields and proudly carry the University of Hartford banner.

Nominations for next year’s Anchor Award recipients and Alumni Board members are now being accepted. The deadline for submitting nominations is Jan. 3, 2016.

Call the alumni office at 860.768.2487, email us at alumni@hartford.edu, or log onto the alumni pages of hartford.edu to learn more about being involved and to check out the many benefits available to you. Look for us on LinkedIn, Facebook, and our other social media platforms—we’re just a click away.

I look forward to seeing you at a UHart event soon.

Bernard L. Kavalier ’79, M’88
President
University of Hartford Alumni Association

DEGREE KEY

Alumni Connections entries are distinguished as follows:

- A: associate’s degree
- AD: artist diploma
- C: six-year certificate
- D: doctorate
- GPD: graduate professional diploma
- M: master’s degree
- nd: nondegree alumnus/a

No letter designation before a degree year indicates a bachelor’s degree. P indicates the parent of a student or alumnus/a.

1966
MARY E. ZEIGLER-BEAGLE (HAS) of Las Cruces, N.M., showed her paintings and stone sculptures at the Adobe Patio Gallery in Mesilla, N.M.; Thunder Horse Gallery in Ruidoso, N.M.; and Marigold Arts in Santa Fe, N.M. Marigold Arts featured her work during Indian Market in Santa Fe in August.

1968
RICHARD B. CARLSON (HAS) of Troy, N.H., continues his work as a painter and guest lecturer in design and drawing at Keene State College in Keene, N.H.

1969
PATRICIA DCOSIMO (HAS) of Bristol, Conn., and JILL A. GOLDBERG C’89 (ENHP) of West Hartford, Conn., were recognized at the 2015 Connecticut Art Education Association, Inc., Outstanding Art Educators ceremony in April. DCosimo, who is retired from Simsbury Public Schools, received the award for Distinguished Service to the Profession. Goldberg received the John Nerreau Retired Art Educator Award.

GARY PALLADINO (A&S) of West Haven, Conn., has published Charge, a book focusing primarily on his 31-year basketball coaching career at Notre Dame High School in West Haven. The book speaks to the life lessons he has learned through his personal and professional journey, including his time as a player and coach with the Harford Hawks.

1970
VICTOR GREENBERG (A&S) of Hartford, Conn., has self-published his first novel, titled Rooks. It is the world’s first action-thriller chess novel.
1971  
**THOMAS DEVITA** (ENHP) of Acton, Mass., was elected chair of the board of trustees of the New York Chiropractic College. A private practitioner, he has been a member of the board since 2004. Previously, he served a nine-year term on the Massachusetts Board of Registration and Examination.

1973  
**EDWARD DOMBROSKI** (BARNEY) of Newington, Conn., has been named manufacturing program coordinator at Manchester Community College.

1974  
**RONALD F. BARISANO** (A&S) of Dover, Del., graduated from the Leadership Central Delaware program. Barisano helped to coordinate a class project of refurbishing the kitchen and dining room at People’s Place, a shelter for battered women and children. He has received the chairman’s Volunteer of the Year award for three children. He has received the chairman’s Place, a shelter for battered women and children. Barisano helped to coordinate a class project of refurbishing the kitchen and dining room at People’s Place, a shelter for battered women and children. He has received the chairman’s Volunteer of the Year award for three children.

**CAROLE KUNSTADT** (HAS) of West Hurley, N.Y., showed wall hangings from her Sacred Poem series at The Gallery, Union Arts Center, in New Palz, N.Y. Her vintage photo postcard was on display at Wish You Were Here 14, an artists’ postcard exhibition and benefit held at the A.I.R. Gallery in Brooklyn, N.Y.

1976  
**SADIG ALI** (formerly Bill Brown) (ENHP) of North Chesterfield, Va., published a book titled *Benjamin E. Mays Institute: An Ideal of Educating Young Black Males.* In 1995, Ali founded the Benjamin E. Mays Institute, a seventh- and eighth-grade, all-male academy within Hartford Public Schools.

**JOHN MADDEN** (BARNEY) of Middlesex, N.J., celebrated his 35th anniversary as owner of Aquatronics Corporation in Middlesex Borough.

1977  
**CLIFFORD DAVIS** (M, A&S) of Mount Vernon, Ohio, performed his piece “Let There Be Light,” for which he composed both music and lyrics, at a “Denison Singers @ 54” concert on the campus of Denison University.

1978  
**DAVID KATZ** (HARTT, AD’84 HARTT, M’89 HARTT) of Danbury, Conn., led his Chicago Bar Association Symphony Orchestra and Chorus, nearly 300 musicians in all, in “Something Wonderful,” a concert of the music of Rodgers and Hammerstein, in famed Orchestra Hall in Chicago, Ill., in April 2015. It was the second appearance in the historic venue for Katz’s acclaimed all-attorney ensembles, which he founded in 1986. At Hartt, Katz was a protégé of Vjtautas Marijouis, who conducted in the same Chicago theater almost 40 years ago.

1979  
**RAISSA KATONA BENNETT** (M, HARTT) of West Hartford, Conn., was elected president of the Connecticut Foundation for Open Government, a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting an open and accountable government and advocating the public’s right to know.

1980  
**RAISSA KATONA BENNETT** (HARTT) of Milford, Conn., re-created the role of Meg in the musical Good Girl, presented by Manhattan Musical Theatre Lab, in New York City. Bennett is also working on a new cabaret act.

1981  
**CHANDRA CHANDRATILLEKE** (M, BARNEY) of Colombo, Sri Lanka, enjoyed the Memorial Day holiday with John Ogilvie (right), Barney School of Business professor of management. With 35 years’ experience in management training and consultancy, Chandratilleke is the head of training and a consultant at the Employers’ Federation of Ceylon in Sri Lanka. He is also a visiting faculty member of the Graduate School of the University of Colombo in Sri Lanka.

1982  
**JEFFREY WOLF** (A&S) of Scottsdale, Ariz., was named to the International Who’s Who Legal: Franchise 2015.

1983  
**ALISA COLEMAN** (HARTT) of Morris Plains, N.J., and her ABKCO Music & Records team won a Grammy Award for Best Score Soundtrack for Visual Media for The Grand Budapest Hotel (Alexandre Desplat, composer).

1984  
**RICHARD WILLIAMS** (HARTT) of Larchmont, N.Y., performed a solo trombone recital at the Larchmont Avenue Presbyterian Church in Larchmont.

**DAVID PALERMINO** (M, BARNEY) of Monroe, Conn., was recognized by the Connecticut Convention & Sports Bureau. Robertson is an independent management and sports consultant for media properties that are looking to develop sponsorship for broadcast, sports, and digital solutions. Previously, he was senior vice president of corporate development at Connecticut Public Television.

**MICHAEL L. TAYLOR** (BARNEY) of Milford, Conn., was hired by Connex Credit Union as assistant vice president of indirect lending.

1985  
**PAUL O. ROBERTSON** (A&S) of Windsor, Conn., was elected chair of the Connecticut Convention & Sports Bureau. Robertson is an independent management and sports consultant for media properties that are looking to develop sponsorship for broadcast, sports, and digital solutions. Previously, he was senior vice president of corporate development at Connecticut Public Television.

1997  
**RAISSA KATONA BENNETT** (HARTT) of West Hartford, Conn., was elected president of the Connecticut Foundation for Open Government, a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting an open and accountable government and advocating the public’s right to know.

1999  
**DAVID CULLEN** (HARTT) of Reading, Pa., presented the first faculty solo guitar recital, “An Evening of Classical Guitar Masterworks,” at Millersville University. Cullen is a Grammy Award-winning classical guitarist and Artist in Residence at Elizabethtown College.

**JAYNE DASHOFF GEORGETTI** (ENHP, M’77 ENHP) of Greenwich, Conn., has retired as a Social Security disability examiner and has taken on a new role as a doting grandma.

**RON WEISINGER** (A&S) of Monroe Township, N.J., and his dog, Ben E (female standard poodle), were honored as a team at Pet Therapy Dog of the Week by Pet Partners, the world’s largest nonprofit pet therapy organization, with more than 11,000 members. Weisinger recently launched a dog training business, Dog Leadership 101, in central New Jersey.

**KATE EISEMANN** (A&S) of Fairfield, Conn., was named grand prize winner of the Fairfield Museum and History Center’s 2015 IMAGES: Juried Photography Show. Her entry, catscan, an image of her cat sitting on a scanner, was chosen from more than 800 submissions from Connecticut, New York, Rhode Island, and Massachusetts. Eismann is a photographer and a location scout for movies, television, and advertising.

**BERNARD KVALEK** (A&S, M’88 BARNEY) of West Hartford, Conn., was elected president of the Connecticut Foundation for Open Government, a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting an open and accountable government and advocating the public’s right to know.

1991  
**ALISA COLEMAN** (HARTT) of Morris Plains, N.J., and her ABKCO Music & Records team won a Grammy Award for Best Score Soundtrack for Visual Media for The Grand Budapest Hotel (Alexandre Desplat, composer).

**ERIK NIELSEN** (M, HARTT) of Brookfield, Vt., co-creator of A Fleeting Animal: An Opera from Judevine, has reintroduced the opera as a revised production touring the state of Vermont after a 15-year hiatus. The work is believed to be the only American opera set in Vermont.

1994  
**MICHAEL L. TAYLOR** (BARNEY) of Milford, Conn., was hired by Connex Credit Union as assistant vice president of indirect lending.

**CHANDRA CHANDRATILLEKE** (M, BARNEY) of Colombo, Sri Lanka, enjoyed the Memorial Day holiday with John Ogilvie (right), Barney School of Business professor of management. With 35 years’ experience in management training and consultancy, Chandratilleke is the head of training and a consultant at the Employers’ Federation of Ceylon in Sri Lanka. He is also a visiting faculty member of the Graduate School of the University of Colombo in Sri Lanka.

**FALL 2015**
MARY ELLEN MCKINLEY LADD (A, HCW) of West Hartford, Conn., is a partner at the Women’s Center for Psychotherapy in West Hartford. She recently earned her certification as a clinical social worker in gerontology from the National Association of Social Workers.

STEVE LAVOYE (ENGINEERING) of Gilbert, Ariz., has opened a Chick-Fil-A restaurant in Enfield, Conn.

MARK SHIRING (ENGINEERING) was appointed president and CEO of ebm-papst, Inc., a designer and manufacturer of fans and blowers for engineering air movement.

1987

CAROLYN BLIGH (ART) of Simsbury, Conn., won the prestigious Hartford Business Journal Women’s Business Competition and was honored at a luncheon at the Connecticut Convention Center in Hartford, Conn.

JANICE KASZCUZK LOOMIS (HAS) of Norwich, Conn., has worked to help revive parts of the Norwich Arts Center and expand its art class offerings.

LAURA WHITNEY (BARNEY) of Old Saybrook, Conn., has been appointed the University of Hartford’s controller.

1988

PATRICK DELPY (BARNEY) of Hong Kong, People’s Republic of China, leads Scytl’s business development efforts in the Asia-Pacific region. Scytl is the world leader in electoral modernization.

GAYLE GEIER-MULLIGAN (BARNEY) of Hebron, Conn., was profiled by Reminder News and the Hartford Courant for her lifetime of public service to her community. After serving for many years in local government positions, she has been elected to her first term as a state representative.

SCOTT OLSEN (BARNEY) of Wethersfield, Conn., has his own entertainment business, SHO Productions. The company provides live musical entertainment groups, from small combos to large dance bands, as well as DJ, sound, and lighting services. Two of Olsen’s groups, Glamour Girls and Mixed Signals, have performed in the past for 15-year career in higher education services.

MARK FULCO (Barney) of Rocky Hill, Conn., was named chief information officer of the Sisters Providence Health System. He will continue to facilitate SPHS’s transition to population health management and value-based contracting.

MICHÈLE G. HELMIN (BARNEY, M’94 BARNEY) of Manchester, Conn., is the new director of the Fund for Walker’s at the Ethel Walker School in Simsbury, Conn. She was previously director of marketing and communications for UConn School of Law for the past 10 years.

1986


MARCUS GIORGI (M, BARNEY) of São Paulo, Brazil, is vice president, field marketing, at CA Technologies in Latin America and the Caribbean. CA Technologies is one of the largest independent software corporations in the world.

JAMES LONG III (ENGINEERING) of Virginia Beach, Va., has accepted a position with the Virginia Department of Transportation as the district major projects delivery director for the Hampton Roads District (southeastern Virginia).

MICHAEL MENAPACE (HARTT) of North Granby, Conn., has been elected an officer of the Hartford County Bar Association (HCBA) and will serve as secretary, treasurer, president-elect, and president over the next four years. The HCBA is a nonprofit association of lawyers and judges in Hartford County that is dedicated to promoting public service and furthering the principles of law and justice. Menapace is an attorney with the firm of Wiggin and Dana.

JOSEPH SYLVESTRO (CEA) of Avon, Conn., vice president of manufacturing operations at Pratt & Whitney, was one of three national manufacturing leaders who were invited to spotlight their companies at a White House Supply Chain Innovation Roundtable. Sylvestro was also chosen by Penny Pritzker, U.S. secretary of Commerce, to serve on the Department of Commerce Manufacturing Council.

1992

GIRISH RISHI (M, BARNEY) of South Barrington, Ill., was appointed by Tyco as its executive vice president, North American installation and services and Tyco retail solutions.

DANIELLE WOZNIAK (C, A&S) of Wilton, Conn., was appointed dean of the College of New Rochelle School of Arts & Sciences.

1993

MARK DION (HAS) of New York, N.Y., is manager of media sales at the Norman Rockwell Museum in Stockbridge, Mass. Clowe created two videos that are on view at the museum: Roz Chast: Cartoon Memoirs, a look at the cartoonist, and Conserving Nature: Roz Chast: Cartoon Memoirs, a look at the New Yorker cartoonist, and Conserving Norman Rockwell’s United Nations. The latter film inspired an exhibition of the artist’s work at the United Nations headquarters in New York City.
KERRY GOUDER (nd, 1992–94, HAS) of Scarborough, Maine, has signed a licensing agreement with Sizzix, a company that creates products for artistic enthusiasts. Her Kid Giddy pattern die cuts are featured on the company’s website.

KEN MUSKAT (A&S) of Miami, Fla., was chosen to lead the Cruise Lines International Association’s Trade Relations Committee.

SETH NAGELBERG (HAS) of Rutherford, N.J., has published a book titled Batch Manufacturing for Ceramics: Models and Molds, from Process to Product. He is an associate professor and chair of ceramics at the Cleveland Institute of Art in Cleveland, Ohio.

DAVID PRITKIN (A&S) of West Hollywood, Calif., won his second consecutive Emmy Award as a member of the production of the Creative Arts Emmy Awards, held in Los Angeles, Calif.

JOHN SAHAREK (M. BARNEY) of Trabuco Canyon, Calif., was appointed chief commercial officer of Imprimis Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

ANN STEWART (M. BARNEY) of Philadelphæa, Pa., is a member of the Dean’s Strategy Council at Northeastern University’s College of Social Science and Humanities. Stewart spent almost two decades managing the court system for the State of Connecticut.

1995

PHILLIP BOYKIN (HARRT) of Montclair, N.J., a Tony Award nominee, starred in the York Theater Company’s Off-Broadway musical Lord Torm in April 2015 in New York City. Boykin was the recipient of the 2015 Hartt Alumni Award at Commencement exercises in May.

KIMBERLY CONFORTI (BARNEY) of Canton, Conn., was promoted to manager at Robert-Hensley and Associates in Avon, Conn.

ANTONIO DUARTE (BARNEY) of Wethersfield, Conn., is a consultant at Fiduciary Investment Advisors, focusing on defined-contribution retirement plans.

ARNOLD LESTER (M. BARNEY) of Concord, N.C., has been named associate vice chancellor for human resources at Winston-Salem State University in Winston-Salem, N.C.

LISA O’CONNOR (ENHP, M’98 ENHP, D’06 ENHP) of East Hamden, Conn., was promoted to associate dean of the School of Nursing at Quinnipiac University.

SUSAN URILLO (ENHP) of Southington, Conn., is director of transitions at Southington Care Center.

1996

DATUK BORHAN DOLAH (M. BARNEY) of Selangor, Malaysia, was appointed as the Sabah federal secretary.

SANDRA JEKNAVORIAN (HAS) of Norwich, Conn., is the recipient of the Distinguished Service in Art Education Award, presented by the Lyme Academy College of Fine Arts of the University of New Haven. A professor at Three Rivers Community College, Jeknavorian has exhibited her work in many venues, including Studio Soto in Boston, Mass., and the D.C. Arts Center in Washington, D.C. Her work is part of the permanent collection of the United States Department of the State, and two of her pieces are installed in the United States Embassy in Yerevan, Armenia.

1997

WINSTON LOACH (HAS, M’01 HAS) of Dorchester, Mass., a former Howie the Hawk (1994–97), has been exhibiting art as Joe Kitsch since 2003 in the Greater Boston, Mass., area. The community outreach coordinator for the Cambridge Art Association, he was recently elected as a board of directors. His full portfolio is available for viewing at joekitsch.com.

SUSAN MORISON (M. ENHP) of Enfield, Conn., was named assistant professor of radiology at Manchester Community College.

MICHAEL T. RYAN (A&S) of Chatham, N.J., is managing director and relationship manager at Chatham Wealth Management, a private wealth management firm. With more than 10 years’ experience in the industry, Ryan focuses on enhancing the company’s risk and credit-analysis capabilities as well as capital-raising activities.

1998

RICHARD WATERS (HARRT) of Lexington, Ky., was granted tenure and promoted to professor of music at Eastern Kentucky University, where he has served as director of choral activities since 2011. Waters has recently been commissioned to compose new choral works for choirs in Kentucky, Minnesota, and Virginia, as well as for the North Carolina All-State Chorus.

1999

FRANK KOSIBA (BARNEY) of Boston, Mass., is now a senior sales consultant for Businessolver representing the New England market. Businessolver is a benefits technology solutions company.

SHEL FROLICH TSCHERNE (ENHP) of Marlborough, Mass., was one of 20 contributing authors to The Book of Slobodkina, in honor of the book’s 75th anniversary. The sequel, More Caps for Sale: Another Tale of Mischievous Monkeys, uses illustrations created by Slobodkina before her death in 2002.

2000

ANDREW K. LEAHY (BARNEY, M’03 BARNEY) of Hoboken, N.J., is now an active-disclosure XBRL consultant/XBRL client lead with Donnelley Financial Service.

2001

RYAN ELLIS (ENHP) of Montague, N.J., a former member of the UHart baseball team and first-year head coach at High Point Regional High School in Sussex, N.J., was named the New Jersey Herald’s Coach of the Year. He led the school’s Wildcats to a 16–9 record, including a 15–4 mark over their last 19 games, and the team finished in a tie for second place in the NJAC Freedom Division. Ellis is a fourth-grade teacher at Franklin Borough School.

2002

CYNTHIA ELVIN (A. HILLYER). See JOSHUA FLORILO ’09.

KRISTEN HARRIS (A’00 HILLYER, A&S) of Brooklyn, N.Y., is the director of college readiness supports in the central office of the New York City Department of Education. She oversees districtwide college and career-readiness initiatives and counselor professional-development training.

LAURA MARZI (M. A&S) of West Hartford, Conn., has been appointed vice president of marketing by The Hartford.

DANIEL OCHOLA (M. BARNEY) of Agawam, Mass., has joined Doris Dental as a general dentist.

CAROL SISCO (M. ENHP) of Southport, Conn., was named vice president and executive director of television programming and acquisitions at CPTV.

2003

AMY SHULTS BRENNER (A&S) of Milford, Conn., along with nine other alumni, returned to campus in April 2015 for a College of Arts and Sciences panel discussion on what they have done since graduation and to offer wisdom and insight on the ways in which their UHart education helped them to pursue diverse careers. Panelists included LINDSAY CAREY ’14 (A&S) of Bloomfield, Conn.; MARAL WOZNIAK FIKRIATAN ’12 (A&S) of Bloomfield, Conn.; MATT GILBERT ’09 (A&S) of Coventry, Conn.; WILLIAM JOHNS ’09, M’11 (A&S) of Newington, Conn.; AMBER LAPPOINT ’11 (A&S) of Thomaston, Conn.; AVER ROSE ’14 (A&S) of Bryn Athyn, Pa.; AMANDA SCHOO ’14 (A&S) of Fauquier Varina, N.C.; GRAHAM STEEN ’14 (A&S, CETA) of Glastonbury, Conn.; and CARLY TUTOLU ’14 (ENHP) of Northfield, Conn.
Ya Gotta Have Hartt

Hart School organ alumni got together to have a little fun and put on a reunion concert in May 2015. Among those who performed or just came back to campus for the festivities were more than 20 alumni, including Michael Menapace ’93, Min-Jung Kim D’06, Enid Oberholtzer ’74, Diane Heath ’81, Allen Hill ’71, Mark Kasmin ’69, Neil Keen ’75, Jim Barry ’80, Mary Bonkeen ’75, Kasha Breau ’75, and Michael Hafner ’79.

And back to campus for the festivities were more than 20 alumni, including Michael Menapace ’93, Min-Jung Kim D’06, Enid Oberholtzer ’74, Diane Heath ’81, Allen Hill ’71, Mark Kasmin ’69, Neil Keen ’75, Jim Barry ’80, Mary Bonkeen ’75, Kasha Breau ’75, and Michael Hafner ’79.

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DOUGLAS LYONS (HARTT) of New Haven, Conn., was one of 46 established and emerging writers, composers, and lyricists who were invited to participate in the Johnny Mercer Foundation Writers Colony at Goodspeed Musicals. The group is working on developing 25 new musical projects.

RACHEL WADDELL (HARTT) of Canton, Ohio, was named to CantonRep.com’s “20 under 40” roster for 2015. Waddell conductor of Canton Symphony Orchestra and music director/assistant conductor of the Canton Symphony’s Writers Colony at Goodspeed Musicals.

The group is working on developing 25 artists to receive a $10,000 fellowship. With the award, Fedorsky became one of 19 artists to receive a $10,000 fellowship.

2011 JOVAN ALEXANDRE (HARTT) of Wallingford, Conn., has a new release titled Collective Consciousness, which received a favorable review in the online WNPR News. “Right from its opening title track, the album lights up with promise.” Alexandre is a graduate of The Hartt School’s renowned Jackie McLean Institute of Jazz.

NANCY BRESSLER (M, A&S) of Shillington, Pa., has joined the faculty at Wheeling Jesuit University in Wheeling, W.Va.

STACY CHAMBERS (D, ENHP) of Tallahassee, Fla., is appearing with the touring production of Girls Night: The Musical at the Pasadena Playhouse in Pasadena, Calif.

JONAS HAMPTON (CETA) of New Britain, Conn., has qualified for the U.S. Olympic Marathon Trials. He won the Hartford Marathon in October.

2012 JOSEPH PRIESTLEY (A&S) of Harlem, N.Y., is a sports teacher at the Success Academy Bronx 3 in Bronx, N.Y. Part of the school’s mission is that scholars attend and graduate from college.

As each classroom is named after the lead teacher’s alma mater, Priestley is decorating his “University of Hartford” classroom with UHart apparel.

JILLIAN SOARES (HARTT) of Somerset, Mass., is appearing with the touring company of Girl’s Night: The Musical.

2013 ANGELICA FERRA (CETA) of Cambridge, Mass., posted an entry for the Global Shapers blog discussing her role as a project assistant on a PMCM project at Harvard University, through the ARCADIS-US operating company. Ferra is part of the Owner’s Representative Project Management team for Harvard’s new Richard A. and Susan F. Smith Campus Center.

BRETT PINEDO (HAS) of Enfield, Conn., joined Mintz + Hoke as an art director.

DAVID SZALAY (HAS) of Richfield, Ohio, has received the Ohio Arts Council Excellence Award. He is an assistant professor in the Graphic Design Department at the University of Akron’s Mary Schiller Myers School of Art.

ALEX TREMBLAY (HARTT) of North Providence, R.I., and recent graduate MIKE CASEY ’15 (HARTT) of Malvern, Pa., participated in Betty Carter’s Jazz Ahead, a two-week residency, performance, and composition project aimed at “discovering and presenting the next generation of jazz greats.” The program was based at the John F. Kennedy Center for Performing Arts in Washington, D.C.

IRA WAGNER (M, HAS) of Montclair, N.J., has published a book titled Superior Apartments: Photographs of the Bronx.
Emergencies. The report was provided to the government and Latino Media in Natural Disasters & Statewide (HAS) developed the design for GEMMA SANCHEZ See DIANA DELVA ’10. CHERELLE MOORE (A&S).

Not Pictured

Susan Chakmakian ’93 (Hartt) and her husband, Armen, of Glendale, Calif., on Sept. 10, 2013, welcomed their adopted son, Gabriel Mateo Chakmakian, born on Aug. 27, 2013.

Benjamin Fain ’02 (HAS) and his wife, Carrie Schneider, of Brooklyn, N.Y., welcomed their son, Hank, on April 9, 2015.

Matt Haggerty A’97, ’99 (Hillyer, Barney), and his wife, Amy Esposito, of New York, N.Y., welcomed the birth of their first daughter, Pelia Rose, on Sept. 5, 2014.

2015

SAMANTHA CORMIER (BARNEY) of West Hartford, Conn., has been named an associate in the audit department of Whittlesey & Hadley.

JOSH GISCHNER (A&S).

See MEARA LEOBOVITZ ’03.

CARLY GLENN (HARTT) of Katonah, N.Y., created and wrote a short film titled Bark Mitzvah that premiered at the Handel Performing Arts Center in May 2015.

CHERELLE MOORE (A&S).

See DIANA DELVA ’10.

GEMMA SANCHEZ (HAS) developed the design for a Connecticut Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission publication, The Role of State Government and Latino Media in Natural Disasters & Statewide Emergencies. The report was provided to the governor and other state legislators to ensure that the state’s Spanish-speaking population is informed.

Class notes are also available online on the Alumni page at hartford.edu.
WEDDINGS

Allison Rockwell ’07 (A&S) and Kevin Callahan ’07 (CETA) of Bristol, Conn., were married on May 15, 2015, in Middletown, Conn. Crowding around the happy couple are many UHart friends who attended: (l–r) Tom Nelson ’04, Aaron Fellman ’06, Lauren Feinberg Lichtel ’06, Marty Lichtel ’04, Lee Simmons ’06, Brian Cutino ’07, Amanda Nelson ’04, Erica Wysk ’07, Jessica North Cutino ’06, and Jeevan Vittall (nd, 2004–06).

Jessica Gay ’13 (Barney) and Kyle Cholewa ’13 (A&S) of Simsbury, Conn., celebrated their nuptials on Oct. 13, 2013, at Saint Clements Castle in Portland, Conn. Sabrina Slep ’13 (Barney) was maid of honor and Ryan Adams ’13 (CETA) was best man. Standing alongside the bride and groom are their parents, from left, William and Cynthia Gay and Debra and Victor Cholewa. (See also Hawk Hatchlings, p. 28.)

Angela McIvleen and Charlie O’Hara ’98, M’02 (ENHP), pose for a wedding portrait on Sept. 13, 2014, in Stonington, Conn. Included in the bridal party were Megan Marlovits ’96, M’98 (ENHP), Jason Marlovits ’97 (Barney), and Dan Tota ’99 (A&S). Also attending were Jon Clark ’02 (Barney), Sebastian Cognetta ’98 (ENHP), Patricia Bartlewski Danamian M’04 (ENHP), Nick Defino ’00 (Barney), Kevin Hickey ’97 (Barney), Brian Lamastro A’99, ’01 (Hillyer, A&S), Thomas Pacyna ’01 (Barney), David Piquette ’98 (A&S), Greg Guas ’00 (Barney), and Rafiq Wiley ’98 (Barney). The newlyweds call West Hartford, Conn., home.

With lovely Lake Solitude as a backdrop, Anneliese Chloe Janssen ’14 (HAS) and Joseph Jacob Rosenstein ’14 (HAS) were married on Sept. 19, 2015, in High Bridge, N.J. The bride works in the University’s College of Education, Nursing and Health Professions. The groom is employed at Hartford Distributors. The newlyweds, who make their home in Bloomfield, Conn., are both pursuing master’s degrees at the University of Hartford.

Amanda McLeMAN ’10 (CETA) and Christopher Pelliccione ’10 (A&S) embrace before a setting sun on their wedding day, Oct. 5, 2014, in Bolton, Mass. The bride is a research director for a national media/publishing company. With a PhD in physics, the groom is a postdoctoral researcher for Brookhaven National Laboratory. The couple calls Middle Island, N.Y., home.

MaryAlina Vettichira and Mathew S. Mathew ’09 (A&S) took their vows on Sept. 12, 2015, at Zoodohos Pgege Greek Orthodox Church in Bronx, N.Y. Among the groomsmen were Doron Erez ’08, Steve Horbachuk ’09, Christian Lyhus ’10, Sean Sullivan ’09, and William White ’09. Also attending were Adrian Alexis ’10, Elsa Chin A’07, ’09; Sean Cohen ’08; Mike Haas ’07; Kyle Lewis ’08; Rebecca McDonald ’03; Lindsay Norman ’10; Christopher Padilla ’09; Maria Padilla ’09; Jade Parente ‘13; Dave Sepern ’06; Katie Shea ’09; Lovepreet Singh ’12; and Sean Thompson ’09. The groom is a consultant in the financial tech field for hedge funds. He and his bride make their home in New Rochelle, N.Y.


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Farewell*

Edward B. Bates (Hon. ’76), 36, a life regent of the University of Hartford and former chairman and chief executive officer of Connecticut Mutual Life Insurance Company, died this past summer 2015 in Manchester, Vt. The University’s Bates House on campus, home of the Office of Admission and Student Financial Assistance, was named in honor of Bates’s long history of dedicated service to the University.

Thomas R. Donohue, founder of what grew into the University of Hartford’s School of Communication in the College of Arts and Sciences, died in August 2015. Arriving at the University of Hartford in 1975, he later became vice president of Louis Harris & Associates and led communication programs at Boston University and Virginia Commonwealth University.

A. Peter LoMaglio, 97, the University of Hartford’s first athletics director, died on June 18, 2015. Generally considered the “Father of University of Hartford Athletics,” he laid the foundation for the University’s athletics program more than 60 years ago and was among the first honorees to be inducted into the University’s Alumni Athletics Hall of Fame.

Edmund B. Sullivan, professor emeritus of education, died on July 5, 2015, at his home in Centerville, Mass. He was 87. A member of the University of Hartford faculty since 1968, he was the founding director of the University’s former Museum of American Political Life.

Wilson K. Acheampong M’91 (Barney), Manchester, Conn. 4.15
Marcia Alcorn A’47 (HWC), Suffield, Conn. 6.22
Shirley Karstenen Allgrove M’65 (ENHP), West Hartford, Conn. 8.31
Conrad M. Amenta ’59 (CETA), Louisville, Ky. 7.75
Lawrence K. Anderson M’72 (Barney), Kissimmee, Fla. 1.29
Wayne A. Anderson ’61 (Barney), Glastonbury, Conn. 5.45
Doris Field Armstead A’45 (HWC), Glastonbury, Conn. 4.11
Kathleen Terry Dzenyuy Armstrong ’85 (Barney), Hartford, Conn. 4.20
Richard A. Bell ’59 (Barney), Hartford, Conn. 4.20
Norman R. Ball C’58 (Ward), Chicopee, Mass. 3.16
Harold L. Baker M’74 (Barney), Pisgah Forest, N.C. 7.28
Judy Silva Baril M’66 (ENHP), Winston-Salem, N.C. 5.31
Dale A. Barsness M’74 (Barney), Watagoue, Conn. 8.15
Richard E. Beaulieu ’54 (HAS), Middlebury, Conn. 6.30
William Beeman M’06 (Barney), East Hartford, Conn. 9.19
Richard A. Bell ’59 (Barney), Glastonbury, Conn. 5.21
David P. Bernabo ’70, D’92 (A&S), Broad Brook, Conn. 3.29
Leon C. Blackmon M’82 (Barney), West Simsbury, Conn. 9.11
Frederick W. Bolliger ’61 (Barney), Port Saint Lucie, Fla. 5.12
Mary B. Borovsky A’86 (HWC), Southington, Conn. 7.16
Fred R. Boudreau ’50 (Barney), Branchburg, N.J. 4.81
Elsie L. Bourdeaudhui M’76 (HAS), Melbourne, Fla. 11.25
Delton H. Briggs ’70 (ENHP), Lebanon, Conn. 3.22
Bertha E. Bush ’79 (A&S), Meriden, Conn. 6.22
Ronald B. Byron ’71, M’73, C’87 (A&S, ENHP, ENHP), West Hartford, Conn. 4.13
Nicholas R. Carbone A’77 (ENHP), Hartford, Conn. 9.11
Roger W. Carbone M’66 (ENHP), New Britain, Conn. 5.20
Dominic J. Castagna M’63 (Hillyer), East Hartford, Conn. 4.11
Anthony F. Cessario ’84 (A&S), Rocky Hill, Conn. 3.30
John F. Chapman ’70 (A&S), Wethersfield, Conn. 3.29
Dara L. Ciancio-Bunch ’84 (A&S), Indianapolis, Ind. 1.29
Frank B. Clark ’52 (CETA), Glastonbury, Conn. 7.21
Warren D. Clay ’61 (CETA), Vernon-Rockville, Conn. 9.15
Robert F. Cleary Sr. A’48 (Hillyer), West Hartford, Conn. 5.31
William F. Clynes M’55 (ENHP), Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla. 6.12
Michael E. Coleman C’59, ’78 (Ward, A&S), Wethersfield, Conn. 7.20
Frank J. Colonghi Jr. M’62 (ENHP), Westbrook, Conn. 5.91
Patricia Smith Conger M’64 (ENHP), Rockville, Conn. 4.24
Brian Conn A’71 (Ward), Oakdale, Conn. 9.61
Arthur J. Cooney A’62, ’72 (Engineering), Florence, Ky. 3.10
Natalie A. Corkin M’57, C’59 (ENHP), Wallingford, Conn. 3.29
Doris Beaumont Crabtree M’68 (ENHP), Sherman, Conn. 3.20

*Farewell listings reflect notices received by the Observer as of Oct. 1, 2-15.

30 OBSERVER
Thomas J. Herlihy '78 (ENHP), Simsbury, Conn.  
George Herrick III M’93 (Barney), East Longmeadow, Mass.  
Dennis G. Hesh ‘69 (A&S), West Hartford, Conn.  
Christopher J. Hetrick ’78 (ENHP), East Hampton, Conn.  
Headley Hill A’94 (Barney), Seminole, Fla.  
Mary Drucker Hirschorn M’61 (ENHP), Pensacola, Fla.  
Francis J. Hoffman Jr. M’73 (Barney), East Hartford, Conn.  
Charles P. Holbrook M’54 (Hillyer), Homosassa, Fla.  
Francis J. Holgerson M’64 (ENHP), South Windsor, Conn.  
Geraldine A. Horton A’78 (HCW), Vernon Rockville, Conn.  
Randall W. Howe M’95, M’96 (Barney), Prospect, Conn.  
Robert S. Huey ‘65 (A&S), Albuquerque, N.M.  
Beth Ingersoll M’04 (Barney), Avon, Conn.  
Kathryn Scott Itter M’03 (ENHP), New Hartford, Pa.  
Harry Jopek A’60 (Barney), Windsor, Conn.  
Regina M. Josenberger A’90 (Hillyer), Glen Allen, Va.  
John J. Kane Jr. M’63 (ENHP), East Hartford, Conn.  
Robert V. Kelly M’57 (ENHP), Meriden, Conn.  
John D. King A’59, ’74 (Barney), East Hartford, Conn.  
Edmund Knight ‘56 (Barney), Chandler, Ariz.  
Shaun Kraftrofer M’05 (Barney), Newington, Conn.  
Robert J. Kulak M’89 (Barney), West Hartford, Conn.  
Robert P. Kulak M’78 (Barney), South Glastonbury, Conn.  
George E. Linde ‘51 (Barney), East Hartford, Conn.  
Domenic F. Lombardo ‘95 (Barney), Southington, Conn.  
Andrew L. Maciejewski ‘78 (A&S), New Britain, Conn.  
Margaret L. Mahar C’94 (HCW), Wethersfield, Conn.  
Virginia U. Martini M’56, C’61 (Hillyer, ENHP), West Hartford, Conn.  
Marvin Maskovsky M’64, C’79 (ENHP), Torrington, Conn.  
Judy A. Mazuak M’76 (A&S), New Haven, Conn.  
Amy E. Hadfield Mayberry ‘01 (ENHP), Carver, Mass.  
Arthur F. McAllister ‘63 (Barney), Simsbury, Conn.  
Charlie McKenzie M’67 (Barney), Columbia, Conn.  
Edouard V. Messier Jr. C’58 (Ward), Southbury, Conn.  
Ann K. Michaels M’78 (ENHP), Farmington, Conn.  
Colleen Barry Michelson ‘86 (Barney), Unionville, Conn.  
Roland A. Miller A’50 (Hillyer), West Springfield, Mass.  
Gilda Oliver Muhlen A’72 (HCW), Rocky Hill, Conn.  
Robert T. Munson ‘73 (Barney), Orleans, Mass.  
Pauline Desorco Neckermann ’62 (Barney), Columbia, Conn.  
Claire Murphy Newbold ’79 (Hartt), Wallingford, Conn.  
Frank E. Nowicki A’79 (Ward), South Portland, Maine  
Phyllis Pava Nussbaum ‘63 (ENHP), Bloomfield, Conn.  
Elizabeth O’Heare A’64, ’69 (Barney), Rocky Hill, Conn.  
Martin D. Paschal A’68 (Hillyer), Sandwich, Mass.  
Bennett H. Pearl ’53 (Hillyer), Hartford, Conn.  
Evelina H. Peppe M’62 (ENHP), Canaan, Conn.  
Geoffrey L. Perrett ’75 (Hartt), Vernon, Conn.  
Roberta Arrigoni Pickett M’61 (ENHP), Middletown, Conn.  
Peter G. Plante M’76 (Barney), Mansfield Center, Conn.  
Paula Later Polivy A’41, M’68 (HCW, ENHP), Bloomfield, Conn.  
Frank J. Pollack M’66 (Barney), Torrington, Conn.  
Louis W. Pontecorvo ’59 (Hartt), Wallingford, Conn.  
Mario A. Posocco A’48 (Barney), Agawam, Mass.  
Joseph O. Pritchett C’69 (Ward), Bloomfield, Conn.  
Mailyn Engel Privitera A’49 (HCW), Houston, Texas  
Edwin C. Raggio C’69 (Engineering), Granby, Conn.  
Carmino C. Ravosa ’57 (Hartt), Briarcliff Manor, N.Y.  
May Ferland Reading A’55 (HCW), Penngrove, Calif.  
Adam K. Reid ’02 (Hartt), Lebanon, Conn.  
Barbara Johnson Relford M’72 (ENHP), Windsor, Conn.  
David G. Richards ’73 (Barney), Palatine, Ill.  
Joseph T. Ricupero A’57 (Barney), Rocky Hill, Conn.  
Janet S. Roberts M’74 (ENHP), West Suffield, Conn.  
Peter W. Rogan C’63 (ENHP), Clearwater, Fla.  
David H. Rohrbach ’69 (CETA), New Bern, N.C.  
Rita Selig Romano A’59 (A&S), Boca Raton, Fla.  
Theodora Zafroin Rosenfield A’41 (Barney), West Hartford, Conn.  
Mitchell M. Ross A’59 (Hillyer), Fort Pierce, Fla.  
Richard W. Rovinelli ’56, M’60 (Hartt), Spring City, Tenn.  
Lawrence A. Schafer C’50 (Hillyer), Newton, Mass.  
Norman Scheinkman ’65 (A&S), Hollywood, Fla.  
Lucille D. Gallicchio Seccareccia ’80 (A&S), West Hartford, Conn.  
Martin S. Serafin C’50 (Ward), Newington, Conn.  
Lucy Sfredo ’67 (ENHP), Glastonbury, Conn.  
Jeannette D. Shapiro ’73 (ENHP), Nashua, N.H.  
John J. Sheehy ’64 (A&S), West Hartford, Conn.  
Carole Davis Sigler ’65 (A&S), Meriden, Conn.  
Robert J. Slabinski ’64 (CETA), Unionville, Conn.  
Patrick C. Smith ’71 (Hartt), Jacksonville, Fla.  
David A. Soderstrom M’97 (Barney), Rocky Hill, Conn.  
Arthur L. Spencer M’92 (Barney), Chatham, Mass.  
Charles N. Stetson ’58 (Barney), Manchester, Conn.  
Julie Murray Stiles A’4 (HCW), Bloomfield, Conn.  
Margaret T. Yesukevich Stors ’97 (ENHP), Windsor, Conn.  
Lawrence W. Tamiso ’76 (HAS), East Berlin, Conn.  
Charles W. Taylor C’67 (Engineering), Enfield, Conn.  
Lorraine Chagnon Taylor A’64 (Barney), Windsor, Conn.  
Paul Templeton A’50, ’53 (Hillyer), South Windsor, Conn.  
John Termuene ’57 (CETA), Brooklyn, Conn.  
Doris M. Thompson M’61 (ENHP), Wethersfield, Conn.  
Zara S. Thompson ’82 (A&S), Langhorne, Pa.  
Glenn S. Truehart A’66 (CETA), South Heidelberg Township, Pa.  
Judith A. Desorco Tufano A’63 (Barney), Jupiter, Fla.  
Scott A. Turen ’98 (Barney), Tenafly, N.J.  
Dolores L. Laurinatis Tuttle ’79, M’82 (Barney), Vernon-Rockville, Conn.  
Daniel Vanwagenen ’63 (Barney), Cocoa Beach, Fla.  
Norman E. Visnaw C’62 (Ward), Delray Beach, Fla.  
Floyd Wallace III M’86 (Barney), Wallingford, Conn.  
John J. Walsh M’80 (Barney), Somers, Conn.  
Kim Weinberg A’87, ’89 (Hillyer, A&S), Boynton Beach, Fla.  
David L. Whittlesey A’49 (Hillyer), Windsor, Conn.  
Helen M. Woodward M’54 (ENHP), Bloomfield, Conn.  
Edward J. Zigmond ’58 (CETA), Norwalk, Conn.  
Stephen A. Zrenda ’66 (Barney), Niantic, Conn.
Spring Flinging
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The Back East Brewery in Bloomfield, Conn., hosted Hartford-area alumni on April 16. Attending were (l–r) Benjamin Accardo ’12, Matthew Cooke ’10, Matt Moore, Daniel Arsenault ’12, and Graeme McKenzie ’14.

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<th>Priority to purchase VIP parking for basketball games</th>
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<th>Priority to purchase Conference Tournament and NCAA Tournament tickets</th>
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**HELP SHAPE CHAMPIONS**

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Visitors to the Joseloff Gallery’s fall +/- (Plus/Minus) Exhibition, curated by George Fifield, used smartphones and tablets to view digital enhancements to nine artists’ work. The artists—Sophia Brueckner, Dan Collins, Katie Davies, Sophia Kahn, Denise Marika, Michael Mittelman, Jonathan Monaghan, Michael Rees, and John Slepian—used additive (+) and subtractive (−) technologies like 3D printing and computerized machining to explore what happens when technology meets the production of artistic sculpture.

The exhibition was the first in the University’s Hartford Art School’s new Kohn Joseloff Guest Curator Series, which was established in 2014 with a generous gift from the Kohn family to showcase contemporary art selected by noted curators from around the world.