From left: Peter Silverman, Ryan Larrier, and Jacob Bongiovanni show off one of their biology-themed graduation caps at the Undergraduate Commencement ceremony on May 17.
Hawktober
HOMECOMING AND PARENTS WEEKEND
OCTOBER 16–18, 2015

» Hang with Howie
» Cheer the Hawks on to victory
» Reconnect with your UHart family
» Check out the new Commons

REUNION ROW
Celebrating Reunion Class Years
2015 • 2010 • 2005 • 1990

Registration opens August 1

University of Hartford
ANCHOR FUND
SECURING THE FUTURE WITH YOUR SUPPORT

CONTRIBUTE TO STUDENT SUCCESS

Nearly 1,100 graduates completed a chapter in the success stories of their lives in May. Your gift to the Anchor Fund provides merit- and need-based financial aid and supports student experiences that help them realize there’s no limit to how far they can go.

To make a gift
Visit: hartford.edu/giving
Call: 860.768.2400
Mail: Use the convenient postage-paid envelope to mail your check, payable to University of Hartford.

Please make a gift today.

University of Hartford
ANCHOR FUND
SECURING THE FUTURE WITH YOUR SUPPORT

CONTRIBUTE TO STUDENT SUCCESS

Nearly 1,100 graduates completed a chapter in the success stories of their lives in May. Your gift to the Anchor Fund provides merit- and need-based financial aid and supports student experiences that help them realize there’s no limit to how far they can go.

To make a gift
Visit: hartford.edu/giving
Call: 860.768.2400
Mail: Use the convenient postage-paid envelope to mail your check, payable to University of Hartford.

Please make a gift today.
DEAR READERS,

It’s finally happened. Winter has let loose its stranglehold on the Northeast. Green has replaced the white stuff that lay outside our windows for months, and warm temperatures arrived just in time for Commencement Weekend in May. Approximately 1,400 happy graduates, with their friends and families, gathered to celebrate their successes.

Along with the joy and excitement, there were a few tears shed at leaving the University of Hartford behind. Our alumni have developed strong relationships with friends and faculty here. But our graduates are well prepared to head out into the world, thanks to a new emphasis that recognizes the competition out there. On page 3, you can read about the latest data we’ve gathered on recent graduates and what they are saying about the University.

In 2013, President Walter Harrison announced the University of Hartford’s Strategic Plan 2014–19, a multiyear, multifaceted set of goals to better position the University in the 21st century. A major goal is to prepare our students in the classroom and through internships, faculty-directed research projects and mentoring, service learning, global opportunities, and community service so that they stand out in any pool of applicants.

In this issue of the Observer, we have selected stories from new graduates and alumni that highlight how the University’s focus on preparing our students to enter the workforce or graduate-level degree programs has made a real difference. Our graduates are finding jobs in their majors. Don’t miss “A Hawk’s Tale” on page 32.

Barry Sandrew ’70 left here with a bachelor’s in psychology and became an amazing neuroscientist, entrepreneur, and pioneer of digital colorization and 3D film imaging. He and his team have worked on many feature films including the Shrek trilogy, the Amazing Spiderman 2, Hugo, Life of Pi, The Lego Movie, and Poltergeist.

It is with deep sadness that I inform you of the death of Diana Simonds, the first editor of the Observer. Diana joined the University in 1979 and retired in 2009. In those 30 years, she devoted herself to the University and to the Observer. We shall all miss her.

We look forward to seeing you on Hawktober Weekend, Oct. 16–18, 2015. For information, go to www.hartford.edu/alumni; click on “Going Back” and then on “Hawktober.” Registration opens Aug. 1.

Go, Hawks!

Trish Charles
Editor-in-Chief

Read Observer magazine online at hartford.edu/observer.

CONTENTS

4 New Alumni See No Limits to Success
Casey Beasley ’13, M’15, heads off for residencies in both prosthetics and orthotics; Adam Stankiewicz ’15 enters a PhD program at Carnegie Mellon University; and David Drakes ’15 lands his dream job at Harley-Davidson.

8 Learning to Be Career Ready
Programs and out-of-classroom experiences at Barney, HAS, and Hartt.

10 UHart Education in the Real World
Four engineering alums find satisfying careers at Honda; a criminal justice grad is a decorated Hartford police officer.

15 Longest-Serving University Employee Retires
After 50 years, Richard Provost, founder of the Hartt Guitar Department, is passing the torch.

16 2015 Commencement Weekend
Approximately 1,400 graduate and undergraduate students received their degrees on a spectacular weekend.

22 Sports Shorts
Track athlete Chaz Davis ’16 is literally running blind. Athletes win conference honors.

24 Alumni Connections
Barry Sandrew ’70, took a bachelor’s in psychology to Hollywood and became founder of one of the leading 2D-to-3D conversion and visual effects studios in the feature film industry.

OBSERVER STAFF

Executive Director, Office of Marketing and Communication Mildred McNell
Editor-in-Chief Trish Charles
Writer, copy editor, proofreader Beverly Kennedy
Contributors Jonathan Easterbrook ’87, M’90; Meagan Fazio; David Isgur; James Keener; Grace Merritt; Sophia Olsen M’16; Barbara Steinberger; Jason Ulm ’12
Budget Manager Sharon Scorso ’02
Design Wondriska Rusto

On the cover: (clockwise, beginning top left) prosthetics and orthotics students develop a new prosthetic hand; p. 5; engineering graduate David Drakes gets a job at Harley-Davidson; p. 6; Barry Sandrew ’70 is founder of a leading 3D imaging company; HAS opens a Pop-Up Shop in West Hartford. Pictured, (l-r) are Lisa Gaumond, managing director of Joseloff Gallery, illustration graduate Jenna Collins ’15, and Jenni Friedman, assistant professor of printmaking, p. 9.

facebook.com/UniversityofHartfordNews
twitter.com/UHartfordNews

© 2015 University of Hartford. Observer magazine is published two times a year for alumni, parents, faculty, staff, students, and friends of the University of Hartford. All rights reserved. Produced by the Office of Marketing and Communication, University of Hartford, 200 Bloomfield Avenue, West Hartford, CT 06117.

The views expressed herein are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect official University of Hartford policy.
Nothing is more life-changing than the power of a great teacher or mentor. I know from personal experience.

In the spring semester of 1966 when I was a sophomore at Trinity College, I signed up for a class called Introduction to American Literature with Professor Paul Smith. I chose the class because some friends told me he was an inspiring professor. I had searched for a teacher or mentor. I had searched for him, thinking about the influence he had on me.

So I sat in a class of 25 students listening and watching Paul Smith at work, leading us through meticulously prepared lectures on the classics in American literature. I was entranced by the precision and intrigue of the poetry of Emily Dickinson and thrilled by the passion and power of Walt Whitman’s verse. I began a lifelong love affair with F. Scott Fitzgerald’s The Great Gatsby.

More importantly, I saw in Paul Smith the man I wanted to become—someone with a passion for literature and teaching, and a discerning intellect. Two years later, Paul Smith granted me the then-rare privilege as an undergraduate of enrolling in a graduate course in contemporary literature. Surrounded by older students, mostly high-school and community-college teachers, I explored the work of Saul Bellow, John Updike, and John Barth.

Smith inspired me to live the life of the mind with and for others. I could lead older students to insights about the classics in American literature. I was challenged by DeLois Traynum Lindsay, assistant vice president for student life. Haight, who majored in psychology, was primarily interested in attitudes toward sexual violence on college campuses. Inspired by Professor Powell and challenged by our honors program, she is going to graduate school to study international disaster psychology. Demaké is a graduate of the acoustics and music program. Acoustics and music may be the most selective and challenging major at the University, since applicants must have the analytical skills of an engineer and the musical talent to pass an audition in The Hartt School. The program is led by one of our most beloved and respected teachers, Bob Celmer, known affectionately as “Dr. Boli” to his students. Demaké will use what she has learned here at her new job as an acoustical engineer at Cerami Associates, headed by Victoria Cerami ’81.

Johnson was a vocal performance major in The Hartt School. She is one of many students who have been inspired and challenged by DeLois Traynum Lindsay, who is the advisor to multicultural programs. As president of Brothers and Sisters United, Johnson learned the lessons of leadership from Lois—something she says she will never forget. Johnson is hoping to join Teach for America next year.

Great teaching and close relationships between faculty, staff, and students have always characterized the University of Hartford. We continue to be the most important building blocks on which our current strategic plan is based. In the years ahead, I am sure that Haight, Demaké, and Johnson will look back on their relationships with their mentors just as I do, with fondness and gratitude. What they have learned here will change their lives forever.

Walt Harrison
President
Nothing is more life-changing than the power of a great teacher or mentor. I know from personal experience.

In the spring semester of 1966 when I was a sophomore at Trinity College, I signed up for a class called Introduction to American Literature with Professor Paul Smith. I chose the class because some friends told me he was an inspiring professor. I had searched for a major but had not yet decided on one. So I sat in a class of 25 students listening and watching Paul Smith at work, leading us through meticulously prepared lectures on the classics in American literature. I was entranced by the precision and intrigue of the poetry of Emily Dickinson and thrilled by the passion and power of Walt Whitman’s verse. I began a lifelong love affair with F. Scott Fitzgerald’s The Great Gatsby.

More importantly, I saw in Paul Smith the man I wanted to become—someone with a passion for literature and teaching, and a discerning intellect.

Two years later, Paul Smith granted me the then-rare privilege as an undergraduate of enrolling in a graduate course in contemporary literature. Surrounded by older students, mostly high-school and community-college teachers of English, I explored the work of Saul Bellow, John Updike, and John Barth. At first intimidated by the older professionals, I soon found my voice. I could lead older students to insights about Rabbit, Run or The End of the Road. After class, Smith invited me with several advanced graduate students to a nearby restaurant to continue our discussions over a beer (don’t worry—I was 21 by then). These experiences changed my life. Paul Smith inspired me to live the life of the mind with the power and gusto of Walt Whitman’s verse.

I have seen it this year specifically in the classroom. Haight, who majored in psychology, was primarily interested in attitudes toward sexual violence on college campuses. Inspired by Professor Powell and challenged by our honors program, she is going to graduate school to study international disaster psychology.

Demake is a graduate of the acoustics and music program. Acoustics and music may be the most selective and challenging major at the University, since applicants must have the analytical skills of an engineer and the musical talent to pass an audition in The Hartt School. The program is led by one of our most beloved and respected teachers, Bob Celmer, known affectionately as “Dr. Bob” to his students. Demake will use what she has learned here at her new job as an acoustical engineer at Cerami Associates, headed by Victoria Cerami ’81.

Johnson was a vocal performance major in The Hartt School. She is one of many students who have been inspired and challenged by DeLois Traynum Lindsey, who is the advisor to multicultural programs. As president of Brothers and Sisters United, Johnson learned the lessons of leadership from Lois—something she says she will never forget. Johnson is hoping to join Teach for America next year.

Great teaching and close relationships between faculty, staff, and students have always characterized the University of Hartford. They continue to be the most important building blocks on which our current strategic plan is based. In the years ahead, I am sure that Haight, Demake, and Johnson will look back on their relationships with their mentors just as I do, with fondness and gratitude. What they have learned here will change their lives forever.

Walter Harrison
President

BY THE NUMBERS...
A University of Hartford degree is valued and valuable.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>62%</th>
<th>93%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Of our recent graduates had internships</td>
<td>Of our Class of 2014 are either</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Calculating value-added*</th>
<th>Contributions to value-added from institutional quality</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Actual mid-career earnings $69,090</td>
<td>Positive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value-added +21.0%</td>
<td>X-factor: +10.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Score: 86</td>
<td>Curriculum value, STEM orientation, alumni skills: +7.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Predicted mid-career earnings $65,200</td>
<td>Financial aid and faculty salaries: +3.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contributions to value-added from institutional quality</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Positive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial aid and faculty salaries: +3.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**“Beyond College Rankings: A Value-Added Approach to Assessing Two and Four-Year Schools” is a new approach to evaluating institutional quality that was released by the Brookings Institution in April 2015. It goes beyond the name and selectivity of a college to look at whether students are better off by having attended that college. University of Hartford’s high scores show the value and positive lifelong impact of a UHart degree. See the full report at www.brookings.edu/research/reports.**

---

**By the Numbers...**

A University of Hartford degree is valued and valuable.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>62%</th>
<th>93%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Of our recent graduates had internships</td>
<td>Of our Class of 2014 are either</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Calculating value-added*</th>
<th>Contributions to value-added from institutional quality</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Actual mid-career earnings $69,090</td>
<td>Positive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value-added +21.0%</td>
<td>X-factor: +10.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Score: 86</td>
<td>Curriculum value, STEM orientation, alumni skills: +7.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Predicted mid-career earnings $65,200</td>
<td>Financial aid and faculty salaries: +3.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contributions to value-added from institutional quality</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Positive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial aid and faculty salaries: +3.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Beyond College Rankings, Brookings Institution, 2015**
T his fall, Adam Stankiewicz ’15 is headed to the PhD program at Carnegie Mellon University’s Human-Computer Interaction Institute, one of the top programs of its kind in the world. Stankiewicz graduated in May with University Honors, following a brilliant, four-year career in the Multimedia Web Design and Development (MWD) program at the University of Hartford.

Those achievements alone make him stand out, but they only tell part of his story. Stankiewicz is also one of the top competitors in the world in the sport of boomerang throwing. Oh, and he rides a unicycle. It’s a combination of skills and interests that is unusual, to say the least.

As an undergraduate, Stankiewicz developed a web-based media player that is designed to promote collaborative discussion of video content, such as class lectures, among students. During the spring 2015 semester, his project was used by nearly 400 students across 16 courses at three universities, including UHart. In his honors thesis, Stankiewicz researched and analyzed student participation in the program.

He has co-authored papers that were accepted at three different academic conferences—highly unusual for an undergraduate—and he was one of eight UHart faculty members in particular who have had a significant impact on him: Larissa Schroeder, assistant professor of mathematics, and former MWD faculty member Brian Dorn, who is now at the University of Nebraska-Omaha. It was Dorn who introduced Stankiewicz to the project involving collaborative discussion of video content among students. Stankiewicz and Dorn are still working on the project, together with Schroeder.

“He (Dorn) introduced me to the research world, and I have not turned back since,” Stankiewicz says. “If it weren’t for him, I would definitely not be going to grad school for a PhD this fall.”

Stankiewicz and Dorn have co-written papers on their project. In March, Stankiewicz joined Dorn at an international conference in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, where Dorn gave a presentation on their work.

During his undergraduate career, Stankiewicz completed technical internships at three different companies and he did a summer research project at Carnegie Mellon. But even as his success in the computer science world, he plans to maintain his status as one of the world’s top boomerang throwers.

As a member of the U.S. Boomerang Team, Stankiewicz competed in the 2014 World Boomerang Cup in Port, Australia, where he finished eighth out of 74 individual competitors. He also competed in the 2012 World Boomerang Cup in São Paulo, Brazil.

Stankiewicz plans to compete in three regional tournaments this year. He is hoping to make the team for the next World Boomerang Cup, which will take place in 2016 in Cologne, Germany.

When Casey Beasley ’13, M’15, approached her professor, Michael Wininger, about building a prosthetic finger as a University Honors project in 2013, she says she had no idea that her project would take off the way it has.

“I’m very surprised and proud with where it’s gone. It’s going to be hard to leave the project behind.” Beasley, who graduated in May, plans to do residencies in prosthetics and orthotics in the Washington, D.C., area before going to graduate school for a doctoral degree, possibly in biomechanical engineering.

“Observing patients in clinic work as an undergraduate, Beasley had made an important discovery: patients had difficulty using their prosthetic hands, sometimes even rejecting them, and then she noticed why.

“The fingers of prosthetic hands do not bear much resemblance to actual human fingers. For one thing, all the fingers on a prosthetic hand tend to be the same size. And for that matter, all prosthetic hands tend to be the same size. Also, Beasley observed, they were missing the fat pads on the inner side of the fingers that are vital to human group.

“Beasley began working with Wininger, assistant professor of technology and mathematics at UHart, and in our submission to the contest.” With the plan, they sent along photos and videos, as well as a 2,000-word paper explaining their research, in mid-April; a decision will be made in mid-June.

“We’ve had a significant impact on him: Larissa Schroeder, assistant professor of mathematics, and former MWD faculty member Brian Dorn, who is now at the University of Nebraska-Omaha.

Perhaps the most surprising thing about the Hartford Hand Project is how much time and effort the students and Wininger have put into the project, not all of it with pay or course credit. Most say they were motivated by the opportunity to apply classroom theory to the real world. But that’s not all, according to Wininger.

“Those students are very interested in helping patients as well as learning the technology. They have put their hearts and souls into this project.” Next year, his plans to recruit undergraduates so they will have an opportunity to work for a longer period of time on the project.

What started out as a senior’s undergraduate honors project has turned into a full-fledged research team that will continue searching for a prosthetic-device that is more like the real thing.
WEB SITE WHIZ, HONOR STUDENT, CHAMPION BOOMERANG THROWER

STUDENT RESEARCH

The Hartford Hand Project

When Casey Beasley ’13, M’15, approached her professor, Michael Wininger, about building a prosthetic finger as a University Honors project in 2013, she says she had no idea that her project would take off the way it has.

“I’m very surprised and proud with where it’s gone. It’s going to be hard to leave the project behind,” Beasley, who graduated in May, plans to do residencies in prosthetics and orthotics in the Washington, D.C. area before going to graduate school for a doctoral degree, possibly in biomedical engineering.

“In observing patients in clinic work as an undergraduate, Beasley had made an important discovery: patients had difficulty using their prosthetic hands, sometimes even rejecting them, and then she noticed why. The fingers of prosthetic hands do not bear much resemblance to actual human fingers. For one thing, all the fingers on a prosthetic hand tend to be the same size. And for that matter, all prosthetic hands tend to be the same size. Also, Beasley observed, they were missing the fat pads on the inner side of the fingers that are vital to human grasp.

Beasley began working with Wininger, assistant professor of biological engineering at Carnegie Mellon. But soon after his success in the computer science world, he plans to do residencies in prosthetics and orthotics in the Washington, D.C. area before going to graduate school for a doctoral degree, possibly in biomedical engineering.

Wininger says, “Two reasons,” says Wininger. “I’m very interested in getting students involved from across the campus. A lot of students here have interests that are similar to our own. The second reason is a national student design competition run by the Rehabilitation Engineering and Assistive Technology Society of North America, or RESNA. Frank’s work on the business plan, which deals only with the finger, has been vital to our submission to the contest.” With the plan, they sentalong photos and videos, as well as a 2,000-word paper explaining their research, in mid-April; a decision will be made in mid-June.

Four other Hartford Hand team members were divided into two groups: for the electronics, led by Mary Arico, and for the phalanges, or sections, of each finger, has been vital to the success of the project. Beasley and Schroeder, along with the four other Hartford Hand team members, were attracted to it by the opportunity to apply classroom theory to the real world. That’s not all, according to Wininger.

“This student is very interested in helping patients as well as learning the technology. They have put their hearts and souls into this project.”

Next year, he plans to recruit undergraduates so they will have an opportunity to work for a longer period of time on the project.

What started out as a senior’s undergraduate project has turned into a full-fledged research team that will continue searching for a prosthetic hand that is more like the real thing.
David Drakes ’15 was still weeks away from graduating when he learned he had landed the perfect job for him: engineer at Harley-Davidson’s corporate headquarters in Milwaukee, Wis. Drakes, who majored in mechanical engineering in the University’s College of Engineering, Technology, and Architecture (CETA), grew up around motorcycles and had always hoped to work with them one day. That goal shaped the way he lived his life in college, from choosing classes to joining extracurricular clubs and organizations.

“When I graduated [from] high school, I went into a technical program at a community college and learned how to take motorcycles apart and troubleshoot them,” says Drakes, who is from Enfield, Conn. “I actually didn’t even know I wanted to be an engineer until after I was done with that program. I realized I wanted to design motorcycles, not just figure out how they work.”

Drakes started taking engineering courses as soon as he transferred to UHart. In particular, he looked for classes and research that would give him the opportunity to put what he had learned to practical use. CETA Professor Ivana Milanovic was the perfect mentor.

“I’m more of a hands-on learner,” explains Drakes. “Obviously a lot of engineering is calculation and theory-based, but Professor Milanovic actually took the time to help me understand [how to apply these lessons]. She wanted me to succeed.”

Milanovic also encouraged him to help refurbish the on-campus wind tunnel lab, a project made possible by support from United Technologies and the Connecticut Space Grant Consortium. Drakes joined three undergraduates and one graduate student who were already working on the project. In fall 2015, when the facility is complete, students will be able to use it to study and measure the flow of air over airfoils and turbine blades, an important aspect of aerodynamics. Drakes and four other students have been involved in every aspect of the project, from disassembling the old tunnel to ordering all of the equipment necessary for the upgrade.

Milanovic says Drakes’s focus and enthusiasm are apparent. “When I announced the research opportunity [wind tunnel project] for our students last September, I was very surprised that about 15 students applied for just a few slots. The competition was indeed fierce. Dave was the first one hired. He had it all: intellectual curiosity, passion for doing and learning, and he presented himself very well. I had no doubts that Dave was the right choice.”

Drakes also served as the vice president of the Green 707 Car Club, a student organization that is working to convert a regular gas-powered pickup truck into an electric-powered vehicle. This project is still ongoing. In addition, he was the treasurer of the campus chapter of the National Society of Black Engineers. With these activities and an engineering internship at FlowTech in South Windsor, Conn., it’s no wonder Harley-Davidson came calling. And Drakes was ready.

“Biking is in Drakes’s blood. His father was a road cyclist when younger and has always had motorcycles at home. Drakes says he has been in love with them all his life. As his career progresses, he plans to combine that passion with his larger goal of changing the world.”

“I’ve always had a desire to help people around me. Engineering gave me the opportunity to do that, to make a difference in my community by coming up with better systems and a better way of doing things. That’s why I got into it, to help people and build motorcycles. Carbon-zero motorcycles, of course, but they will still be just as cool.”

Top: Drakes races his dirt bike. Below: On a Harley-Davidson motorcycle, Drakes prepares to launch his career as an engineer with the company. Motorcycle courtesy of Gengras Harley-Davidson Motorcycles in East Hartford, Conn.; special thanks to Robert W. Szymanowski, general manager.
David Drakes ’15 was still weeks away from graduating when he learned he had landed the perfect job for him: engineer at Harley-Davidson’s corporate headquarters in Milwaukee, Wis. Drakes, who majored in mechanical engineering in the University’s College of Engineering Technology, and Architecture (CETA), grew up around motorcycles and had always hoped to work with them one day. That goal shaped the way he lived his life in college, from choosing classes to joining extracurricular clubs and organizations.

“When I graduated [from] high school, I went into a technical program at a community college and learned how to take motorcycles apart and troubleshoot them,” says Drakes, who is from Enfield, Conn. “I actually didn’t even know I wanted to be an engineer until after I was done with that program. I realized I wanted to design motorcycles, not just figure out how they work.”

Drakes started taking engineering courses as soon as he transferred to UHart. In particular, he looked for classes and research that would give him the opportunity to put what he had learned to practical use. CETA Professor Ivana Milanovic was the perfect mentor.

“I’m more of a hands-on learner,” explains Drakes. “Obviously a lot of engineering is calculation and theory-based, but Professor Milanovic actually took the time to help me understand [how to apply these lessons]. She wanted me to succeed.”

Milanovic also encouraged him to help refurbish the on-campus wind tunnel lab, a project made possible by support from United Technologies and the Connecticut Space Grant Consortium. Drakes joined three undergraduates and one graduate student who were already working on the project. In fall 2015, when the facility is complete, students will be able to use it to study and measure the flow of air over airfoils and turbine blades, an important aspect of aerodynamics. Drakes and four other students have been involved in every aspect of the project, from disassembling the old tunnel to ordering all of the equipment necessary for the upgrade.

Milanovic says Drakes’s focus and enthusiasm are apparent. “When I announced the research opportunity [wind tunnel project] for our students last September, I was very surprised that about 15 students applied [for] just a few slots. The competition was indeed fierce. Dave was the first one hired. He had it all: intellectual curiosity, passion for doing and learning, and he presented himself very well. I had no doubts that Dave was the right choice.”

Drakes also served as the vice president of the Green 707 Car Club, a student organization that is working to convert a regular gas-powered pickup truck into an electric-powered vehicle. This project is still ongoing. In addition, he was the treasurer of the campus chapter of the National Society of Black Engineers. With these activities and an engineering internship at FlowTech in South Windsor, Conn., it’s no wonder Harley-Davidson came calling. And Drakes was ready.

Biking is in Drakes’s blood. His father was a road cyclist when younger and has always had motorcycles at home. Drakes says he has been in love with them all his life. As his career progresses, he plans to combine that passion with his larger goal of changing the world.

“I’ve always had a desire to help people around me. Engineering gave me the opportunity to do that, to make a difference in my community by coming up with better systems and a better way of doing things. That’s why I got into it, to help people and build motorcycles. Carbon-zero motorcycles, of course, but they will still be just as cool.”

---

Top: Drakes races his dirt bike.
Bottom: On a Harley-Davidson motorcycle, Drakes prepares to launch his career as an engineer with the company. Motorcycle courtesy of Gengras Harley-Davidson Motorcycles in East Hartford, Conn.; special thanks to Robert W. Szymanowski, general manager.
Finding Job One

BARNEY TEACHES STUDENTS HOW TO BE CAREER READY

The University of Hartford’s Barney School of Business is upping its game in preparing students for careers using several innovations, including free subscriptions to The Wall Street Journal (WSJ), mock job interviews with company human-resource managers, and visits to nearby corporations.

Dean Martin Roth says Barney has always been career oriented. But now, the business school, along with the rest of the University, is putting even more emphasis on preparing students, whatever their path may be.

Barney is providing students with free access to The Wall Street Journal this year, after Barney board members, most of whom are business leaders, said students need to be more informed about current events. When students eventually go to job interviews, they need to be prepared to answer questions about interest rates and other business and economic news, Roth explains.

“This faculty [are] taking advantage of this resource and structuring it into their classes,” Roth says. “They are requiring that students use the Journal to prepare for guest speakers and corporate visits that classes make. Students are getting used to the idea that reading the daily news is something business people do, so that it becomes part of their daily ritual.”

Barney student Henry Kujo ’17 says it helps him connect classroom lessons to the real world.

“In class, we learn kind of abstract concepts, and the fact that we have access to the media informs us about the actual business environment and prepares us for the outside world,” Kujo says. “We are able to apply what we’re learning to what we’re reading in the Journal.”

In addition to providing the WSJ, Barney has significantly expanded weekly professional-development workshops. Students, for example, can learn how to land an internship, dress for success, and communicate effectively across generations. The goal is to make them confident in their business communication and professional presence.

They can also go to an area company to have a mock interview with human-resources or other managers, then receive feedback on what they did well and where they needed to focus more in order to do better during a real interview. These experiences also connect students to business leaders, thereby helping them to develop their professional networks.

“I feel it’s a really good experience that we probably couldn’t get in another school,” says Kaila Hickman ’16.

Hickman had a mock interview at Stanley Black & Decker this spring and, as a result, is doing a summer internship there.

“I feel it’s a really good experience that we probably couldn’t get in another school.”

—Kaila Hickman ’16

In addition to mock interviews, all Barney sophomores now spend a day at a company in an industry and location they’d like to consider for a career. In January 2015, Barney students visited Wall Street to learn about the history and current practices of investing. Accompanied by Roth and Owen Sawleld, professor of economics, the students spent the morning at UBS, a global asset management firm, where Stephens and Justin LaBier ’19 described their career paths.

After lunch, the group toured the New York Stock Exchange floor and talked with equity traders who described the evolution of the historic exchange from verbal, relationship-centric, and paper-based processes to information-intensive technology-driven systems. They saw firsthand how many different skills—such as research fundamentals, technical analysis, trading, and risk management—come together to inform market transactions. Similar visits were made to Cantor Fitzgerald, FM Global, The Hartford, HMCO, TBWA, and Travelers.

Students in the University of Hartford’s Hartford Art School (HAS) are learning not only how to enhance their artistic skills but also how to make a living from the art they create. A new experience in the business of art “popped up” when the art school opened a Pop-Up Shop in West Hartford Center in February.

What was previously vacant store space in West Hartford’s Blue Back Square shopping area was transformed for a week into a cash-and-carry art gallery featuring the work of 29 students, 26 alumni, and several HAS faculty and staff. Of the more than 600 pieces on display, 110 were sold.

The Pop-Up Shop is the brainchild of Jenn Friedman, assistant professor of premarketing at HAS. She says the concept of a pop-up art gallery is a trend she has seen elsewhere, and she explains that experiences like this teach students skills in the business of art and how to sustain and promote their careers as professional artists.

“The students prepared their art and filled out paperwork to submit it by the deadline; they set up the shop and helped arrange all the artwork; they worked with customers and answering questions; and they also helped out at the opening reception.” In addition to getting a better idea of what is involved in the business of art, the students also received 70 percent of the proceeds from the sales. The remainder went to the HAS senior graduation event fund.

Jenna Collins, a senior illustration major, is planning a career in scientific illustration. After working in the shop, she said, “The West Hartford community is very supportive of local art, and it’s great to see that they like your art and will buy it.”

HAS Dean Nancy Stuart says the shop was “wildly successful” and the school is developing plans for a possible summer Pop-Up.

INTEGRATED PROFESSIONAL PRACTICES INITIATIVE

In continuing to ensure career readiness for HAS graduates, the art school has launched an Integrated Professional Practices Initiative for fine arts majors—those in photography, printmaking, drawing/graphic design, and media arts. The initiative is a coordinated and comprehensive program that, over four years at the art school, develops the practical and professional skills and know-how needed to thrive as artists upon graduation.

“The professional practices initiative was inspired by alumni feedback and the University’s strategic plan’s emphasis on ‘career readiness,’” says Stuart. “The fine art faculty recognized that all of our graduates needed certain business skills that could best be taught in a cross-disciplinary manner.”

The first phase of the initiative begins with the offering of a Professional Practices course in fall 2015. In this one-semester course, students will learn critical professional skills in topics such as publicly and marketing, professional writing, business finances, grant writing, artwork documentation and management, and more.

The course will be taught by a Hartford Art School faculty member with presentations from active professionals who are experts in the subject matter being discussed. Students will also participate in break-out sessions where they will work through subject matter in small groups of peers.

The initiative’s second phase is tentatively scheduled to launch in 2016–17. This “vertical” program will be integrated into each year of the school’s curriculum and includes an extensive internship/externship program, an integrated career-counseling program, and ongoing short workshops on aspects of professional practice.
Finding Job One
BARNEY TEACHES STUDENTS HOW TO BE CAREER READY

The University of Hartford’s Barney School of Business is upping its game in preparing students for careers using several innovations, including free subscriptions to The Wall Street Journal (WSJ), mock job interviews with company human-resource managers, and visits to nearby corporations.

Dean Martin Roth says Barney has always been career oriented. But now, the business school, along with the rest of the University, is putting even more emphasis on preparing students, whatever their path may be.

Barney is providing students with free access to The Wall Street Journal this year, after Barney board members, most of whom are business leaders, said students need to be more informed about current events. When students eventually go to job interviews, they need to be prepared to answer questions about interest rates and other business and economic news, Roth explains.

“This faculty [are] taking advantage of this resource and structuring it into their classes,” says Kaila Hickman ’16.

Hickman had a mock interview at Stanley Black & Decker this spring, and, as a result, is doing a summer internship there.

“I feel it’s a really good experience that we probably couldn’t get in another school,” says Hickman.

Students in the University of Hartford’s Hartford Art School (HAS) are learning not only how to enhance their artistic skills but also how to make a living from the art they create. A new experience in the business of art “popped up” when the art school opened a Pop-Up Shop in West Hartford Center in February.

What was previously vacant store space in West Hartford’s Blue Back Square shopping area was transformed for a week into a cash-and-carry art gallery featuring the work of 29 students, 26 alumni, and several HAS faculty and staff. Of the more than 600 pieces on display, 110 were sold.

The Pop-Up Shop is the brainchild of Jenni Friedman, assistant professor of premarketing at HAS. She says the concept of a pop-up art gallery is a trend she has seen elsewhere, and she explains that experiences like this teach students skills in the business of art and how to sustain and promote their careers as professional artists.

“The students prepared their art and filled out paperwork to submit it by the deadline; they set up the shop and helped arrange all the artwork; they worked there waiting on customers and answering questions, and they also helped out at the opening reception,” she says.

“In addition to getting a better idea of what is involved in the business of art, the students also received 70 percent of the proceeds from the sales. The remainder went to the HAS senior graduation event fund.”

Jenna Collins, a senior illustration major, is planning a career in scientific illustration. After working in the shop, she said, “The West Hartford community is very supportive of local art, and it’s great to see that they like your art and will buy it.”

HAS Dean Nancy Stuart says the shop was “wildly successful” and the school is developing plans for a possible summer Pop-Up.

INTEGRATED PROFESSIONAL PRACTICES INITIATIVE

In continuing to ensure career readiness for HAS graduates, the art school has launched an Integrated Professional Practices Initiative for fine arts majors—those in photography, printmaking, drawing/painting, sculpture, ceramics, and media arts. The initiative is a coordinated and comprehensive program that, over four years at the art school, develops the practical and professional skills and know-how needed to thrive as artists upon graduation.

“The professional practices initiative was inspired by alumni feedback and the University’s strategic plan’s emphasis on ‘career readiness,’” says Stuart. “The fine art faculty recognized that all of our graduates needed certain business skills that could best be taught in a cross-disciplinary manner.”

The first phase of the initiative begins with the offering of a Professional Practices course in fall 2015. In this one-semester course, students will learn critical professional skills in topics such as publicly and marketing, professional writing, business finance, grant writing, artwork documentation and management, and more.

This course will be taught by a Hartford Art School faculty member with presentations from active professionals who are experts in the subject matter being discussed. Students will also participate in breakout sessions when they will work through subject matter in small groups of peers.

The initiative’s second phase is tentatively scheduled to launch in 2016–17. This “vertical” program will be integrated into each year of the student’s education and will include an extensive internship/mentorship program, an integrated career-counseling program, and ongoing short workshops on aspects of professional practice.

“The fine art faculty recognized that all of our graduates needed certain business skills that could best be taught in a cross-disciplinary manner.”

—Nancy Stuart, HAS Dean

THE BUSINESS OF ART
We’ve all spent countless hours in cars. Have you ever wondered, “How does this thing work?” You could ask Michael Berry ’97, Shawn Kelly ’97, Andrea Martin ’96, and Michael Miller ’92, who all studied mechanical engineering in the University’s College of Engineering, Technology, and Architecture (CETA). As engineers for carmaker Honda’s research and development facility in Raymond, Ohio, they are responsible for making sure vehicles are safe, efficient, and comfortable. Michael Miller, who is in charge of testing everything from durability to ergonomics at Honda, got there first. He started his job immediately following graduation and has worked his way up through the company. Unlike many of his colleagues, including his fellow UHart alums, he wasn’t always interested in cars. In college, it was helicopters that had his attention. Miller recalls that Sikorsky Aircraft was promoting a human-powered helicopter competition. He joined the project in the design phase and was tasked with trying to figure out how to build a carbon fiber shaft for the propeller. Did the human-powered helicopter ever make it off the ground?

“Oh no, we didn’t succeed,” Miller answers with a laugh. “I don’t know if anybody has. The way the calculations worked out, we would have had to have a world-class cyclist actually get in and power it.” Despite this, Miller says the hands-on experience, supplemented by lessons from the classroom, help him on the job to this day.

Just a few years later, when looking for someone with similar experiences to hire at Honda, Miller found the perfect candidate in fellow UHart graduate Andrea Martin. Martin’s acoustics studies with Professor Robert Celmer ’78 prepared her for her job, which focuses on a car’s noise and vibrations. Another thing she had going for her was having worked on cars, thanks to the University’s Formula SAE team, a student club that offers the chance to build a racecar for a competition sanctioned by the Society of Automotive Engineers.

“It was a great experience,” says Martin. “You have to do everything, from coming up with the initial concept, to designing it, to building it. We also had to worry about the cost associated with it. It’s real-world stuff. I do the same thing now that I was doing then.”

While competing with the Formula SAE team, Andrea Martin met Shawn Kelly, who ended up at Honda shortly after graduation. Kelly is a principal engineer and technical expert in charge of developing pedal, shift, and park braking systems. “I think I grew up with a steering wheel in my hand,” jokes Kelly of his love for cars. “But then I went down a few different paths. For a while, I was interested in going into the arts, but I also had a lot of math and science skills. Once I got to the University, I realized I could use my creativity, my math skills, my science skills, and my passion for cars as an engineer.”

—Shawn Kelly ’97

Miller found the perfect candidate in fellow UHart graduate Andrea Martin. Martin’s acoustics studies with Professor Robert Celmer ’78 prepared her for her job, which focuses on a car’s noise and vibrations. Another thing she had going for her was having worked on cars, thanks to the University’s Formula SAE team, a student club that offers the chance to build a racecar for a competition sanctioned by the Society of Automotive Engineers.

“It was a great experience,” says Martin. “You have to do everything, from coming up with the initial concept, to designing it, to building it. We also had to worry about the cost associated with it. It’s real-world stuff. I do the same thing now that I was doing then.”

While competing with the Formula SAE team, Andrea Martin met Shawn Kelly, who ended up at Honda shortly after graduation. Kelly is a principal engineer and technical expert in charge of developing pedal, shift, and park braking systems. “I think I grew up with a steering wheel in my hand,” jokes Kelly of his love for cars. “But then I went down a few different paths. For a while, I was interested in going into the arts, but I also had a lot of math and science skills. Once I got to the University, I realized I could use my creativity, my math skills, my science skills, and my passion for cars as an engineer.”

—Shawn Kelly ’97

Miller found the perfect candidate in fellow UHart graduate Andrea Martin. Martin’s acoustics studies with Professor Robert Celmer ’78 prepared her for her job, which focuses on a car’s noise and vibrations. Another thing she had going for her was having worked on cars, thanks to the University’s Formula SAE team, a student club that offers the chance to build a racecar for a competition sanctioned by the Society of Automotive Engineers.

“It was a great experience,” says Martin. “You have to do everything, from coming up with the initial concept, to designing it, to building it. We also had to worry about the cost associated with it. It’s real-world stuff. I do the same thing now that I was doing then.”

While competing with the Formula SAE team, Andrea Martin met Shawn Kelly, who ended up at Honda shortly after graduation. Kelly is a principal engineer and technical expert in charge of developing pedal, shift, and park braking systems. “I think I grew up with a steering wheel in my hand,” jokes Kelly of his love for cars. “But then I went down a few different paths. For a while, I was interested in going into the arts, but I also had a lot of math and science skills. Once I got to the University, I realized I could use my creativity, my math skills, my science skills, and my passion for cars as an engineer.”

—Shawn Kelly ’97

Miller found the perfect candidate in fellow UHart graduate Andrea Martin. Martin’s acoustics studies with Professor Robert Celmer ’78 prepared her for her job, which focuses on a car’s noise and vibrations. Another thing she had going for her was having worked on cars, thanks to the University’s Formula SAE team, a student club that offers the chance to build a racecar for a competition sanctioned by the Society of Automotive Engineers.

“It was a great experience,” says Martin. “You have to do everything, from coming up with the initial concept, to designing it, to building it. We also had to worry about the cost associated with it. It’s real-world stuff. I do the same thing now that I was doing then.”

While competing with the Formula SAE team, Andrea Martin met Shawn Kelly, who ended up at Honda shortly after graduation. Kelly is a principal engineer and technical expert in charge of developing pedal, shift, and park braking systems. “I think I grew up with a steering wheel in my hand,” jokes Kelly of his love for cars. “But then I went down a few different paths. For a while, I was interested in going into the arts, but I also had a lot of math and science skills. Once I got to the University, I realized I could use my creativity, my math skills, my science skills, and my passion for cars as an engineer.”

—Shawn Kelly ’97
We’ve all spent countless hours in cars. Have you ever wondered, “How does this thing work?” You could ask Michael Berry ’97, Shawn Kelly ’97, Andrea Martin ’96, and Michael Miller ’92, who all studied mechanical engineering in the University’s College of Engineering, Technology, and Architecture (CETA). As engineers for carmaker Honda’s research and development facility in Raymond, Ohio, they are responsible for making sure vehicles are safe, efficient, and comfortable.

Michael Miller, who is in charge of testing everything from durability to ergonomics at Honda, got there first. He started his job immediately following graduation and has worked his way up through the company. Unlike many of his colleagues, including his fellow UHart alums, he wasn’t always interested in cars. In college, it was helicopters that had his attention. Miller recalls that Sikorsky Aircraft was promoting a human-powered helicopter competition. He joined the project in the design phase and was tasked with trying to figure out how to build a carbon fiber shaft for the propeller. Did the human-powered helicopter ever make it off the ground?

“Oh no, we didn’t succeed,” Miller answers with a laugh. “I don’t know if anybody has. The way the calculations worked out, we would have had to have a world-class cyclist actually get in and power it.” Despite this, Miller says the hands-on experience, supplemented by lessons from the classroom, help him on the job to this day.

Just a few years later, when looking for someone with similar experiences to hire at Honda, Miller found the perfect candidate in fellow UHart graduate Andrea Martin. Martin’s acoustics studies with Professor Robert Celmer ’78 prepared her for her job, which focuses on a car’s noise and vibrations. Another thing she had going for her was having worked on cars, thanks to the University’s Formula SAE team, a student club that offers the chance to build a racecar for a competition sanctioned by the Society of Automotive Engineers.

“It was a great experience,” says Martin. “You have to do everything, from coming up with the initial concept, to designing it, to building it. We also had to worry about the cost associated with it. It’s real-world stuff. I do the same thing now that I was doing then.”

While competing with the Formula SAE team, Andrea Martin met Shawn Kelly, who ended up at Honda shortly after graduation. Kelly is a principal engineer and technical expert in charge of developing pedal, shift, and park braking systems. “I think I grew up with a steering wheel in my hand,” jokes Kelly of his love for cars. “But then I went down a few different paths. For a while, I was interested in going into the arts, but I also had a lot of math and science skills. Once I got to the University, I realized I could use my creativity, my math skills, my science skills, and my passion for cars as an engineer.”

—Shawn Kelly ’97

Once I got to the University, I realized I could use my creativity, my math skills, my science skills, and my passion for cars as an engineer.”

In his 20-plus years at Honda, Miller has worked on a variety of products such as the Accord Coupe, the Acura TLX, and the Honda Odyssey. Miller says, “When I see any of the vehicles I’ve worked on drive down the road, I feel a sense of pride knowing that I’ve been personally involved with products that hundreds of thousands of people have used.”
HARTT’S FOOT IN THE DOOR ENSEMBLE TAKES THE STAGE

IN I C E L A N D

The very thought of traveling to Iceland in the winter may give you shivers. Yet even a blizzard that was about to close down Boston’s Logan Airport could not deter the approximately 30 students, alumni, and faculty of the Foot in the Door (FITD) contemporary music ensemble from the University of Hartford’s Hartt School from boarding a plane to Reykjavik, Iceland, on January 26, 2015. They were on their way to participate in that country’s showcase for innovative and progressive contemporary music, the annual Dark Music Days Festival. They had been invited to perform two concerts at the festival and would perform an additional four concerts at a variety of nearby venues.

Traditionally, a mixture of graduate and undergraduate Hartt students that fluctuates in size depending on the music being played, the Foot in the Door group in Iceland included alumni and professors as well. The ensemble’s repertoire consists of established as well as emerging 20th- and 21st-century composers. Its co-directors are Glen Adsit, director of bands, and Edward Cumming, director of orchestral activities. Kan Stein ’82, professor of composition and music theory, is the group’s artistic advisor.

It is Stein who started the connection with Iceland through an artist residency he had at Guðjúkjun Center for Creativity in 2013. That residency provided opportunities for discussion of exchange possibilities with faculty and administrators at the Iceland Academy of the Arts (IAA). A fledging exchange program between the two schools has already begun. Two violin students came to Hartt from Iceland between 2009 and 2014; one, to pursue both Graduate Professional and Artist Diplomas, and the other, to pursue a Master of Music degree. In fall 2015, one senior Hartt composition student will go to IAA, and one or two composition students will come from Iceland to Hartt.

According to Adsit, the invitation for the group to perform is quite an honor—partly because FITD is a student group and also because it was coming from outside Iceland. Traditionally, few international artists are featured at the festival, which places emphasis on emerging and often experimental pieces that reflect the ever-growing diversity and creativity of Icelandic music.

In late August 2014, FITD students had to make a commitment to go to Iceland, which also meant making a financial contribution. Additional funding came from Hartt’s Faculty Development Fund, from Hartt’s acting dean, T. Clark Saunders; from the Graduate Professional Travel Grants fund; from a special fund set up by Hartt donor Kayla Herrmann M’13, GPD’15, who plays saxophone; and from a special fund set up by Hartt donor Susan Brake.

The ensemble’s two performances at the Dark Music Days Festival included exciting combinations of alumni, faculty, and students from both schools, including IAA students Árni Ólafsson. Hartt students featured on this program included Catherine Phang ’14, whose Airiang (Spirit spirit) for chamber orchestra was premiered, and Ben Park M’12, AD’14, whose violin concerto, Huldufólk (The Hidden People), was performed by Hartt alumna Gísla Margítt Vatnamsdóttir GPD’11, AD’13, for whom the work was commissioned by FITD in 2012. A new work by Stein titled DÉPO FÜLÖK composed for the occasion of the festival, featured faculty members Robert Black ’79, professor of double bass; Carrie Koffman, artist teacher of saxophone; Christopher Ladd ADG’03, artist teacher of guitar; Rita Porfiris, associate professor of viola; and Hartt alumna violinist Ása Guðjónsdóttir M’13, along with the entire FITD ensemble.

In addition to performing at Dark Music Days and elsewhere, Hartt faculty offered master classes and lessons to IAA students, thereby deepening a direct pedagogical link between the two schools. Perhaps the most dynamic activity of the trip was the reading/recording session in which FITD collaborated with three IAA student composers. The new works were rehearsed, performed, and recorded, providing invaluable feedback about the practicalities of score and parts preparation, orchestration, rehearsal protocols, and many other elements of compositional craft essential for these young composers as they begin their professional careers. The session also provided essential experience to members of FITD in cross-cultural collaboration within the context of interaction with young composers in the realization of their musical works.

Students and faculty alike praised the benefits of going to the festival. Euginis Figurovas M’16, who plays viola, says, “Playing the duo with my teacher, Rita Porfiris, was one of my best and most stressful experiences of the trip.” Saxophone teacher Koffman says she enjoyed the opportunity for exchange. “We came back with ideas we didn’t have before we went. Everybody grew in a collaborative environment.” Kayla Herrmann M’13, GPD’15, who plays cello and manages the ensemble, adds, “Foot in the Door offers opportunities to work intimately with faculty, with small ensembles, with soloists, with Kan as composer. Going to Iceland made it even more so. We saw them practicing and hanging out. We were there 24/7.”

Opposite, top: The Foot in the Door ensemble on stage in Reykjavik, Iceland. Photo by Ily Harper.


Above: Harpa Concert Hall and Conference Centre in Reykjavik was the site of the 2015 Dark Music Days Festival. Photo by Steven Gryc.

Rights: This statue of Danish sculptor Edvard Eriksen Bergslien by sculptor Olafur Eliasson was installed outside Harpa Concert Hall and Conference Centre in 2014. Photo by Ily Harper.

Olsósókn. Hartt students featured on this program included Carrie Koffman, artist teacher of saxophone; Christopher Ladd ADG’03, artist teacher of guitar; Rita Porfiris, associate professor of viola; and Hartt alumna violinist Ása Guðjónsdóttir M’13, along with the entire FITD ensemble.

Editor’s note: The Foot in the Door ensemble takes its unusual name from a figure of speech used by Alfred C. Fuller to describe a technique used by door-swingers for the Fuller Brush Company. Fuller, a company founder, and his wife, Primrose Fuller, were major benefactors of The Hartt School.
The very thought of traveling to Iceland in the winter may give you shivers. Yet even a blizzard that was about to close down Boston’s Logan Airport could not deter the approximately 30 students, alumni, and faculty of the Foot in the Door (FITD) contemporary music ensemble from the University of Hartford’s Hartt School from boarding a plane to Reykjavik, Iceland, on January 26, 2015. They were on their way to participate in that country’s showcase for innovative and progressive contemporary music, the annual Dark Music Days Festival. They had been invited to perform two concerts at the festival and would perform an additional four concerts at a variety of nearby venues.

Traditionally a mixture of graduate and undergraduate Hartt students that fluctuates in size depending on the music being played, the Foot in the Door group in Iceland included alumni and professors as well. The ensemble’s repertoire consists of established as well as emerging 20th- and 21st-century composers. Its co-directors are Glen Adsit, director of bands, and Edward Cumming, director of orchestral activities. Ken Stein ’82, professor of composition and music theory, is the group’s artistic advisor.

It is Stein who started the connection with Iceland through an artist residency he had at Gullkistan Center for Creativity in 2013. That residency provided opportunities for discussion of exchange possibilities with faculty and administrators at the Iceland Academy of the Arts (IAA).

A fellowship exchange program between the two schools has already begun. Two violin students came to Hartford from Iceland between 2009 and 2014; one to pursue both Graduate Professional Travel Grants fund; from Hartt’s acting dean, T. Clark Saunders; and from a special fund set up by Hartt donor Kayla Herrmann M’13, GPD’15, who plays cello, saxophone teacher Koffman says she “enjoyed the opportunity for exchange. “We came back with ideas we didn’t have before we went. Everybody grew in a collaborative environment.” Kayla Herrmann M’13, GPD’15, who plays cello and manages the ensemble, adds, “Foot in the Door offers opportunities to work intimately with faculty, with small ensembles, with soloists, with Ken as composer. Going to Iceland made it even more so. We saw them practicing and hanging out. We were with them 24/7.”

Editor’s note: The Foot in the Door ensemble takes its unusual name from a figure of speech used by Alfred C. Fuller to describe a technique used by door-to-door salesmen for the Fuller Brush Company. Fuller, company founder, and his wife, Primrose Fuller, were major benefactors of The Hartt School.
New Department of Criminal Justice and Sociology

This is the first year that the University’s criminal justice program is joined with sociology under the Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice. This move recognizes the fact that there is a true balance between theoretical studies and hands-on work in the criminal justice system, says Albert DiChiara, director of the criminal justice program. On the theoretical side, students study the causes of crime, society’s attempts to control crime, ways to prevent crime, and how to think critically about the issues of crime and criminal justice. The hands-on work comes through internships with the Connecticut Judicial Department and the Department of Corrections, as well as research work in the field for the University’s Center for Social Research.

“The change in the department name recognizes the full scope of the department’s offerings and the collaborative relationships that exist between the two programs,” says Katherine A. Arone, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. “Criminal Justice & Sociology is the third-largest major, with more than 100 students, and it’s only fitting that it is represented in the department name. This change coincides with moving the Center for Social Research back on campus (from the Asylum Avenue campus), and housing it within the Sociology and Criminal Justice Department,” she adds. “The center will expand its focus to include crime studies and increasing opportunities for students to get involved in research. In this way, both sociology and criminal justice majors will benefit enormously.”

The year was 1964, and five decades later, Provost has become the first student in the University’s Hartt Guitar Department to recognize five decades of service. In 1960, after graduating, he began teaching at Hartford as an adjunct, becoming a full-time faculty member in 1964. Provost started the collegiate Guitar Department that same year and served as its chair from 1964 to 1969. He continued to serve as a full-time faculty member this year but will continue to teach on a part-time basis. Over the years, graduates of the highly acclaimed guitar program have gone on to successful careers as guitarists for Broadway musicals, studio musicians, heads of college music departments, and performers.

When Professor Richard Provost ’60 Began Teaching Full-Time at the University of Hartford, Lyndon Johnson was President of the United States, “Beatlemania” was Sweeping the Country, and UHart was Just 7 Years Old.

Ｃiti says he found his internships quite valuable. “It was a great snapshot of different aspects of the criminal justice field,” he says. In the adult probation program, he saw how offenders adjusted to living under probation, and with the U.S. Marshal’s Office, he experienced the court system and the investigation process. “Experiences like those can really help steer your career,” he says.

The internship component of the criminal justice program is compelling for many prospective students, according to Albert DiChiara, director of the program in the University’s College of Arts and Sciences, because they receive hands-on experience in fields where jobs are increasing. “For example, as a criminalist, you have to spend time meeting with criminals,” he says, “so it is very helpful for a student to start that process with a mentor in an internship setting.”

The criminal justice program has strong connections with the state’s judicial system, particularly in probation services, where many students do their internships. The program also has a strong relationship with the HPD. “Our department has a good relationship with the University, so we’ve done lots of programs together,” Citti says, adding that he comes back to the University on a regular basis, including to work as part of the HPD detail at the University’s Spring Fling festival.

Provost is currently a detective assigned to the University’s Hartford Police Department, who received a standing ovation at the annual Recognition Day event this spring. Each year, the event honors faculty and staff for 25, 35, and even 45 years of service, but Provost is the first to hit the half-century mark. Provost—who has worked under all five University presidents and seven Hartford School deans—is also a University of Hartford alum, having earned a Bachelor of Music from Hartt in 1960. After graduating, he began teaching at Hartt as an adjunct, becoming a full-time faculty member in 1964.

Provost started the collegiate Guitar Department that same year and served as its chair from 1964 to 1969 and from 2008 to 2012. He is retiring as a full-time faculty member this year but will continue to teach on a part-time basis.

Over the years, graduates of the highly acclaimed guitar program have gone on to successful careers as guitarists for Broadway musicals, studio musicians, heads of college music departments, and performers. Cliff Morris ’18 was the first student in the University’s guitar program and the first to graduate from the University with a major in classical guitar. He went on to play guitar in the original Broadway productions of Promises, Promises and Grease; performed as a freelance session player on radio and television commercials, records, and movies; and was a composer for the NBC soap opera Another World.

“Richard Provost is much more than a great teacher to me. He has been a lifelong friend and mentor for over 50 years,” Morris says. “After I retired from the music business, I began teaching guitar for the first time. It was easy, because all I had to do was pattern my teaching style after Dick: unlimited patience, kindness, and a great sense of humor.”

In addition to teaching, Provost has maintained a busy performance schedule over the years, both as a soloist and as half of the critically acclaimed Galuppi/Provost Classical Guitar Duo. Provost also is the author of five books on older technique, practice, and performance. “I have changed over the past 50 years, Provost says, especially in terms of technology. "Technology has made a difference in that you can record a student’s lesson and immediately play it back for them, and you can really speed up the learning process," he says. But one thing that has not changed is the talent and drive of his students.

“I am humbled by the success of this program, its students, and alumni, and the impact we have had on music education across the country,” Provost said at an event held in 2014 to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Hartt Guitar Department. “From day one, my students’ passion for classical guitar inspired me, and it continues to motivate me every day.”

Provost’s legacy at The Hart School is continuing under the leadership of another former student: the award-winning classical guitarist Christopher Ladd ’07, the current chair of the Hartt Guitar Department. “It is difficult to put into words the effect that Dick Provost has had on my life and career as a performer and teacher,” Ladd says. “I am honored to have had him as a teacher and to have him as a mentor, but somewhere in the last 15 to 20 years our relationship reached a turning point, and today I am equally honored to consider him my friend.”

NAAR

The University's Hartt School Guitar Department, now in its 50th year, is one of the country's leading institutions for guitar study and performance. The program has produced hundreds of accomplished guitarists who have performed in recitals, concerts, and recordings around the world. Among its notable alumni are world-renowned classical guitarists Andrés Segovia and Julian Bream, as well as many other accomplished musicians. The department is recognized for its high academic standards and its commitment to fostering the development of exceptional guitarists. The University of Hartford is proud to celebrate this milestone in its history, honoring its faculty and students who have contributed to the growth and success of the Guitar Department.
NEW DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND SOCIETY

This is the first year that the University’s criminal justice program is joined with sociology under the Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice. This move reflects the fact that there is a true balance between theoretical studies and hands-on work in the criminal justice system, says Albert DiChiera, director of the criminal justice program. On the theoretical side, students study the causes of crime, society’s attempts to control crime, ways to prevent crime, and how to think critically about the issues of crime and criminal justice. The hands-on work comes through internships with the Connecticut Judicial Department and the Department of Corrections, as well as research work in the field for the University’s Center for Social Research.

“The change in the department name recognizes the full scope of the department’s offerings and the collaborative relationships that exist between the two programs,” says Katherine Apesos, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. “Criminal Justice is A&S’s third-largest major, with more than 100 students, and it’s only fitting that it is represented in the department name. This change coincides with moving the Center for Social Research back on campus (from the Asylum Avenue campus), and housing it within the Sociology and Criminal Justice Department,” she adds. “The center will expand its focus to include crime studies and increasing opportunities for students to get involved in the research. In doing so, both sociology and criminal justice majors will benefit enormously.”

Steven Citta ’05 was an explosives-sniffing dog-in-training. Steven Citta ’05, a former criminal justice major, is now a detective. Citta was able to wound and then subdue the suspect.

The year was 1964, and five decades later, Provost has been the first student in the Hartford program and the first to graduate from the University of Hartford with a major in classical guitar. He went on to play guitar in the original Broadway productions of Promises, Promises and Grease; performed as a freelance session player on radio and television commercials, records, and movies; and was a compressor for the NBC soap opera Another World.

“Richard Provost is much more than a great teacher to me. He has been a lifelong friend and mentor for over 50 years,” Morris says. “After I retired from the music business, I began teaching guitar for the first time. It was easy, because all I had to do was pattern my teaching style after Dick: unlimited patience, kindness, and a great sense of humor.”

In addition to teaching, Provost has maintained a busy performance schedule over the years, both as a soloist and as half of the critically acclaimed Goldspiel/Provost Classical Guitar Duo. Provost also is the author of five books on guitar technique, practice, and performance.

A lot has changed over the past 50 years, Provost says, especially in terms of technology. “Technology has made a difference in that you can record a student’s lesson and immediately play it back for them, and you can really speed up the learning process,” he says. But one thing that has not changed is the talent and drive of his students.

“You are proud of the success of this program. Its students, and alumni, and the impact we have had on music education across the country,” Provost said at an event held in 2014 to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Hartford Guitar Department. “From day one, my students’ passion for classical guitar inspired me, and it continues to motivate me every day.”

Provost’s legacy at The Hartford School is continuing under the leadership of another former student: the award-winning classical guitarist Christopher Lado, ’97, the current chair of the Hartford Guitar Department.

“it is difficult to put into words the effect that Dick Provost has had on my life and career as a performer and teacher,” Lado says. “I am honored to have had him as a teacher and to have him as a mentor, but somewhere in the last 15 to 20 years our relationship reached a turning point, and today I am equally honored to consider him my friend.”

Nearly a decade after receiving his criminal justice degree at the University, Hartford Police Department Detective Steven Citta ’05 was back on campus this year to be recognized for a career achievement. At a Hartford Police Department (HPD) ceremony held in the University’s Wilde Auditorium, he was presented with the Chief’s Medal of Valor for “the intelligent performance of his duty and, at grave and imminent personal danger, engaging in successful combat with an offender.”

Citta had apprehended an individual who fled from a car during an attempted police traffic stop. When he located that individual on a nearby city street, the suspect turned and pointed a gun directly at him. Citta was able to wound and then subdue the suspect.

It’s obvious that Citta has put to good use the major that attracted him to campus. He says he was always interested in criminal justice and envisioned himself as a law enforcement officer. So the University’s criminal justice degree program prompted the Charlton, Mass., native to enroll in 2001. Also appealing were the requirement that all criminal justice students do internships during the fall.

“I really liked the idea of exploring the field while still a student,” Citta says. He did internships with the adult probation program in Bristol, Conn., and with the U.S. Marshall’s Office in New Haven, Conn. After graduation, he joined the HPD.

Citta says he found his internships quite valuable. “It was a great snapshot of different aspects of the criminal justice field,” he says. In the adult probation program, he saw how offenders adjusted to living under probation, and with the U.S. Marshall’s Office, he experienced the court system and the investigation process.

“Experiences like those can really help steer your career. The courses I took gave me the tools to interact with people, the skills I needed to understand that there is a true balance between theoretical studies and hands-on work in the criminal justice system, says Albert DiChiera, director of the criminal justice program. On the theoretical side, students study the causes of crime, society’s attempts to control crime, ways to prevent crime, and how to think critically about the issues of crime and criminal justice. The hands-on work comes through internships with the Connecticut Judicial Department and the Department of Corrections, as well as research work in the field for the University’s Center for Social Research.

“The change in the department name recognizes the full scope of the department’s offerings and the collaborative relationships that exist between the two programs,” says Katherine Apesos, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. “Criminal Justice is A&S’s third-largest major, with more than 100 students, and it’s only fitting that it is represented in the department name. This change coincides with moving the Center for Social Research back on campus (from the Asylum Avenue campus), and housing it within the Sociology and Criminal Justice Department,” she adds. “The center will expand its focus to include crime studies and increasing opportunities for students to get involved in the research. In doing so, both sociology and criminal justice majors will benefit enormously.”

Steven Citta ’05, a former criminal justice major, is now a detective in the Hartford Police Department. His companion, Cabel (above), is an explosive-sniffing dog-in-training.

When Professor Richard Provost ’60 began teaching full-time at the University of Hartford, Lyndon Johnson was president of the United States, “Beatlemania” was sweeping the country, and UHart was just 7 years old.

When Professor Richard Provost ’60 began teaching full-time at the University of Hartford, Lyndon Johnson was president of the United States, “Beatlemania” was sweeping the country, and UHart was just 7 years old.

The founder and longtime chair of the University’s Hartford Guitar Department, Provost received a standing ovation at the annual Recognition Day event this spring. Each year, the event honors faculty and staff for 25, 35, and even 45 years of service, but Provost is the first to hit the half-century mark. Provost—who has worked under all five University presidents and seven Hartford School deans—is also a University of Hartford alumnus, having earned a Bachelor of Music from Hartford in 1960. After graduating, he began teaching at Hartford as an adjunct, becoming a full-time faculty member in 1964.

Provost started the collegiate Guitar Department that same year and served as its chair from 1964 to 1988 and from 2008 to 2012. He is retiring as a fulltime faculty member this year but will continue to teach on a part-time basis.

Over the years, graduates of the highly acclaimed guitar program have gone on to successful careers as guitarists for Broadway musicals, studio musicians, heads of college music departments, and performers. Cliff Morris ’88 was the first student in the Hartford guitar program and the first to graduate from the University of Hartford with a major in classical guitar. He went on to play guitar in the original Broadway productions of Promises, Promises and Grease; performed as a freelance session player on radio and television commercials, records, and movies; and was a compressor for the NBC soap opera Another World.

“Richard Provost is much more than a great teacher to me. He has been a lifelong friend and mentor for over 50 years,” Morris says. “After I retired from the music business, I began teaching guitar for the first time. It was easy, because all I had to do was pattern my teaching style after Dick: unlimited patience, kindness, and a great sense of humor.”

In addition to teaching, Provost has maintained a busy performance schedule over the years, both as a soloist and as half of the critically acclaimed Goldspiel/Provost Classical Guitar Duo. Provost also is the author of five books on guitar technique, practice, and performance.

A lot has changed over the past 50 years, Provost says, especially in terms of technology. “Technology has made a difference in that you can record a student’s lesson and immediately play it back for them, and you can really speed up the learning process,” he says. But one thing that has not changed is the talent and drive of his students.

“You are proud of the success of this program. Its students, and alumni, and the impact we have had on music education across the country,” Provost said at an event held in 2014 to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Hartford Guitar Department. “From day one, my students’ passion for classical guitar inspired me, and it continues to motivate me every day.”

Provost’s legacy at The Hartford School is continuing under the leadership of another former student: the award-winning classical guitarist Christopher Lado, ’97, the current chair of the Hartford Guitar Department.

“It is difficult to put into words the effect that Dick Provost has had on my life and career as a performer and teacher,” Lado says. “I am honored to have had him as a teacher and to have him as a mentor, but somewhere in the last 15 to 20 years our relationship reached a turning point, and today I am equally honored to consider him my friend.”
These are a sampling of spontaneous quotes from the University’s Class of 2015 as they prepared for Commencement Weekend, May 16 and 17.

A survey of graduating seniors reveals that 93 percent believe that their University of Hartford education has prepared them for a career or to further their education.

Threatening rain clouds held off on Saturday, May 16, for the Graduate Commencement ceremony. More than 400 master’s and doctoral candidates and recipients of graduate certificates gathered with family and friends under the large, white tent on Gengras lawn to receive their degrees and celebrate.

The University bestowed four honorary doctorates that day upon Maria Livanos Cattaui, former secretary general of the International Chamber of Commerce; actor, singer, composer, and minister Clifton Davis; internationally acclaimed architect Tai Soo Kim, who designed the Harry Jack Gray Center on campus; and legendary jazz saxophonist Sonny Rollins. Rollins received a standing ovation from the audience.

Cattaui, also the Saturday Commencement speaker, urged graduates to be flexible and expect change in their future careers. “The careers, the jobs that you pursue from now on, will mutate pretty quickly, more than at any other period in history.”

On Sunday, keynote speaker Caryl M. Stern, president and chief executive officer of the U.S. Fund for UNICEF, invited the more than 1,000 undergraduates receiving their associate’s and bachelor’s degrees to “open your eyes, open your ears, and open your heart by giving voice to those less fortunate than yourself. You will not be sorry. “When I care, when I act, when I give, my life is at its richest,” Stern added. “This University understands that mission. Committed to diversity and the growth of ideas, committed to giving back, this is an institution whose students choose community service trips over traditional spring breaks, an institution that raises money for relief efforts in Haiti, and a community that comes together for a Day of Service.” Stern received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters at the ceremony.

Fifteen members of the Class of 1965 were recognized as Golden Hawks on the 50th anniversary of their graduation. Also recognized were John J. Carson ’65, University senior advisor for external relations, and Thomas J. Perra ’74, MB2, associate vice president and

“I love it here, I don’t want to leave.”

“I made wonderful, lifelong friends here.”

“The professors really care about your future and want to see you succeed.”

For photos, audio and video clips, speech transcripts, information on the award winners, and stories about notable 2015 graduates, go to www.hartford.edu/news and click on “Commencement Coverage.”

Continued on page 19
These are a sampling of spontaneous quotes from the University’s Class of 2015 as they prepared for Commencement Weekend, May 16 and 17. A survey of graduating seniors reveals that 93 percent believe that their University of Hartford education has prepared them for a career or to further their education.

Threatening rain clouds held off on Saturday, May 16, for the Graduate Commencement ceremony. More than 400 master’s and doctoral candidates and recipients of graduate certificates gathered with family and friends under the large, white tent on Gengras lawn to receive their degrees and celebrate.

The University bestowed four honorary doctorates that day upon Maria Livanos Cattaui, former secretary general of the International Chamber of Commerce; actor, singer, composer, and minister Clifton Davis; internationally acclaimed architect Tai Soo Kim, who designed the Harry Jack Gray Center on campus; and legendary jazz saxophonist Sonny Rollins. Rollins received a standing ovation from the audience.

Cattaui, also the Saturday Commencement speaker, urged graduates to be flexible and expect change in their future careers. “The careers, the jobs that you pursue from now on, will mutate pretty quickly, more than at any other period in history.”

On Sunday, keynote speaker Caryl M. Stern, president and chief executive officer of the U.S. Fund for UNICEF, invited the more than 1,000 undergraduates receiving their associate’s and bachelor’s degrees to “open your eyes, open your ears, and open your heart by giving voice to those less fortunate than yourself. You will not be sorry. “When I care, when I act, when I give, my life is at its richest,” Stern added. “This University understands that mission. Committed to diversity and the growth of ideas, committed to giving back, this is an institution whose students choose community service trips over traditional spring breaks, an institution that raises money for relief efforts in Haiti, and a community that comes together for a Day of Service.” Stern received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters at the ceremony.

Fifteen members of the Class of 1965 were recognized as Golden Hawks on the 50th anniversary of their graduation. Also recognized were John J. Carson ’65, University senior advisor for external relations, and Thomas J. Perra ’74, M’82, associate vice president and...
COMMENCEMENT 2015
FACULTY AWARDS, STUDENT AWARDS, AND UNIVERSITY MEDALS

Faculty Awards
Roger Desmond, Adam Goodworth, Nat Reeves, Joan Pedro

University Medals
John Carson, Tom Perra

Student Awards
Anna Pan, Jeremy Sickles

Honorary Undergraduate Degree
Caryl Stern

Honorary Graduate Degrees
Sonny Rollins, Tai Soo Kim, Clifton Davis, Maria Cattaui

ALUMNI AWARDS
Leonard Epps ’90
Philip Boykin ’95
David Pritikin A’91, ’93, with Joan Sittard A’81, ’83, and Hillyer Dean David Goldenberg A’73, ’76, M’76.

Sunday’s undergraduate ceremony included presentations to two extraordinary graduating students. Anna Pan, of Burlington, Conn., a double major in chemistry-biology and accounting with a double minor in mathematics and actuarial science, received the John G. Lee Medal, which recognizes a graduating senior from Greater Hartford who has excelled academically while demonstrating a deep commitment to the community. Jeremy Sickles, from Mechanicsburg, Pa., a music theatre major in the University’s Hartt School, received the Belle K. Ribicoff Prize, which is awarded for academic excellence.

Also honored were faculty members Roger Desmond, professor of communication in the College of Arts and Sciences (A&S), who was presented with the Roy E. Larsen Award for Excellence in Teaching; Nat Reeves, associate professor of music (jazz) in The Hartt School, who received the James E. and Frances W. Bent Award for Scholarly and/or Artistic Creativity; Joan Pedro, associate professor of education in the College of Education, Nursing and Health Professions (ENHP), who received the Oscar and Shoshana Trachtenberg Award for Sustained Service to the University; Nicholas Ealy, associate professor of English and modern languages in A&S, who was awarded the Donald W. Davis All-University Curriculum Award; and Adam Goodworth, assistant professor of physical therapy in ENHP, who was presented with the Belle K. Ribicoff Junior Faculty Prize.

University President Walter Harrison echoed Stem’s theme on Sunday in his remarks to the Class of 2015: “Today we celebrate your academic, artistic, and intellectual accomplishments, but I am convinced that during your time here—from your friends and fellow classmates, from the University’s staff, and, most of all from our talented and wise faculty—you have learned some of those lessons of the human heart that will last you a lifetime. I know those character building moments help define a University of Hartford education. Most importantly, they are just a beginning, an invitation to live a life of purpose, a life spent serving your fellow human beings.”
Honorary Undergraduate Degree
Caryl Stern

COMMENCEMENT 2015
FACULTY AWARDS, STUDENT AWARDS, AND UNIVERSITY MEDALS

Honorary Undergraduate Degree
Caryl Stern

Faculty Awards
Roger Desmond, Adam Goodworth, Nat Reeves, Joan Pedro

University Medals
John Carson, Tom Perra

Student Awards
Anna Pan, Jeremy Sickles

Honorary Graduate Degrees
Sonny Rollins, Tai Soo Kim, Clifton Davis, Maria Cattaui

ALUMNI AWARDS

Leonard Epps ’90

Sunday’s undergraduate ceremony included presentations to two extraordinary graduating students. Anna Pan, of Burlington, Conn., a double major in chemistry-biology and accounting with a double minor in mathematics and actuarial science, received the John G. Lee Medal, which recognizes a graduating senior from Greater Hartford who has excelled academically while demonstrating a deep commitment to the community. Jeremy Sickles, from Mechanicsburg, Pa., a music theatre major in the University’s Hartt School, received the Belle K. Ribicoff Prize, which is awarded for academic excellence.

Also honored were faculty members Roger Desmond, professor of communication in the College of Arts and Sciences (A&S), who was presented with the Roy E. Larsen Award for Excellence in Teaching; Nat Reeves, associate professor of music (jazz) in The Hartt School, who received the James E. and Frances W. Bent Award for Scholarly and/or Artistic Creativity; Joan Pedro, associate professor of education in the College of Education, Nursing and Health Professions (ENHP), who received the Oscar and Shoshana Trachtenberg Award for Sustained Service to the University; Nicholas Ealy, associate professor of English and modern languages in A&S, who was awarded the Donald W. Davis All-University Curriculum Award; and Adam Goodworth, assistant professor of physical therapy in ENHP, who was presented with the Belle K. Ribicoff Junior Faculty Prize.

University President Walter Harrison echoed Stern’s theme on Sunday in his remarks to the Class of 2015: “Today we celebrate your academic, artistic, and intellectual accomplishments, but I am convinced that during your time here—from your friends and fellow classmates, from the University’s staff, and, most of all, from our talented and wise faculty—you have learned some of those lessons of the human heart that will last you a lifetime. I know these character building moments help define a University of Hartford education. Most importantly, they are just a beginning, an invitation to live a life of purpose, a life spent serving your fellow human beings.”

Continued from page 17
Harrison Receives Gerald R. Ford Award

President Walter Harrison (left) receives the NCAA’s Gerald R. Ford Award from NCAA President Mark Emmert.

University President Walter Harrison had a big week on the national collegiate athletics stage in January of this year. He was appointed to the Knight Commission on Intercollegiate Athletics on Jan. 14, and on Jan. 15 he was presented with the NCAA’s prestigious Gerald R. Ford Award. At the 2015 NCAA Convention in Vancouver, B.C., Harrison received the Gerald R. Ford Award in recognition of his leading role in re-emphasizing academics in intercollegiate athletics and of his work to improve the academic success of student-athletes throughout the country. Over the past 10 years, Harrison has spearheaded sweeping academic reform efforts while serving as the first and only chair of the NCAA’s Division I Committee on Academic Performance.

The Ford Award is named in recognition of Gerald Ford, the 38th president of the United States and a member of two national championship teams at the University of Michigan. The award honors an individual who has provided significant leadership as an advocate for college sports and students over the course of his or her career. It was established in 2004 by the late Charles H. Kaman Charitable Foundation to create the Kaman Center on National Philanthropy.

Harrison says he is extremely proud and extremely humbled to have received the award. “Proud not only because it is a higher award than I ever thought I would earn,” says Harrison, “but also because my wife, Danielle, and I know President Ford and his wife, Betty, during our years at the University of Michigan. To be among the earlier winners of this award—from Father Hesburgh . . . to John Wooden and Pat Summit—and to have an award named after a president I so much admired for his humility and human touch is unspeakably wonderful.”

During the decade that Harrison chaired the Committee on Academic Performance, almost 14,000 student athletes graduated from college who would not have without the academic reforms the association and its membership made possible.

Appointment to the Knight Commission

Although he has stepped down from a position with the NCAA, Harrison will be able to continue his work to improve the academic success of student-athletes as a member of the Knight Commission on Intercollegiate Athletics. He was one of four new members appointed to the Knight Commission in the same week he received the Ford Award.

The other three new members are Penelope Ward Kyke, president, Radford University; G. P. “Bud” Peterson, president, Georgia Institute of Technology; and Nancy Zimpher, chancellor, State University of New York.

Following is an excerpt from the Knight Commission press release announcing the new appointments:

“The Knight Commission continues its work to promote a reform agenda that emphasizes the educational mission of college sports. Over the years, the NCAA has adopted a number of the Commission’s recommendations, including the rule that requires teams to be on track to graduate more than 50 percent of their players in order to be eligible for postseason championships.

“Walter Harrison has been particularly active on NCAA academic reforms, having chaired the NCAA’s Committee on Academic Performance since its establishment in 2004. That committee is most noted for its creation and oversight of the Academic Progress Rate, which tracks academic performance for all Division I sports teams and poses sanctions, including post-season restrictions, for teams that do not meet prescribed academic standards.”

University Faculty and Staff Receive $4.2 Million–Plus in Contracts and Grants

University of Hartford faculty and staff were awarded $4,246,967 in grants and contracts in fiscal year 2014 (July 1–June 30). Monies received supported faculty research, introduce new student programs, and enhance existing programs. Nearly $20,000 was received to support the Hartford Scholars program, which provides half-fellowship scholarships to University of Hartford students who live in Hartford and graduated from Hartford public high schools or from suburban schools that participate in Project Choice, a state program to improve diversity in suburban school districts.

More than half of the fiscal year 2014 monies, or $2,170,333, came from the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection as state funding for the Microgrid Project, part of the state’s plan to better prepare for destructive storms. UHart is one of nine state organizations and municipalities approved in 2013 to receive this funding for disaster preparedness. The money is being used to connect the University’s entire electrical system to the emergency diesel generators installed in 2007 alongside East Hall.

Connecting the Village Apartments, Riggs Park, and Park River residence halls and the Knover Campus Center to the emergency generators solves the possible issue that more than half of the University’s student residents might be without power in the event of a widespread outage caused by a major storm. All other residence halls, the Sports Center, University Commons, Lincoln Theater, and the academic side of campus are already connected to the emergency generators.

The Microgrid Project began in November 2014, and Norm Young, associate vice president for facilities planning and management, hopes it will be finished by the end of this summer.

Three of the state-funded preparedness projects are at universities: UConn, Conn. and WestConn. In the event of a widespread power outage, the emergency generators on these campuses and six other locations will continue to deliver power to critical facilities like police stations.

Hartford Art School Plans Helen S Kaman Print Study Center

Construction is expected to begin this summer at the University of Hartford’s Hartford Art School (HAS) to create the Helen S Kaman Print Study Center. The 500-plus sq. ft., temperature- and humidity-controlled space will house the more than 2,000 prints, drawings, photographs, and artists’ books in the HAS collection that are now in storage and difficult to access. The center will provide secured print storage areas, exhibition and display cases, and a viewing area for the study and research of works from the collection.

The center will honor Helen Kaman (1918–2015), who was on the HAS board (1983–89) and was an artist herself, participating in many solo and group shows. She and her husband, Charles, founded Kaman Aircraft. A $300,000 gift was received from the Charles H. Kaman Charitable Foundation to create the center.

“We feel privileged to be able to honor Helen Kaman in this manner and support the University and the Hartford Art School in this very special project,” said Glenn Messemer, secretary and trustee of the Charles H. Kaman Charitable Foundation. Messemer is a former trustee of the Hartford Art School and a regent of the University.

Messemer was helped in the creation of the new space. Architecture graduate student Kayla Verbitki ’12, M’15, created architectural design drawings for the space. Art school alumna Janice La Motta ’78 created the donor proposal that provided a comprehensive overview of the needs for the proposed print study center.

Nancy Stuart, dean of the Hartford Art School, hopes to have the center ready for 2016.

“Inaugural Mark W. Lord ’79 Trumpet Award

Seth Bailey M’13, who is in the University’s Hartford School’s Graduate Professional Diploma program, received the inaugural Mark William Lord ’79 Memorial Trumpet Award—a custom-built C trumpet—at a brass concert at Hartt this spring.

The award honors graduate and undergraduate trumpet players who demonstrate talent, leadership, and dedication to learning.

Bailey has performed in the Ithorion Playhouse Orchestra as part of its summer-stock production of Dream Girls, A Christmas Carol, and La Cage aux Folles. He also played with the Juliard Wind Orchestra at Carnegie Hall for the 70th birthday celebration of classical composer John Corigliano (Hon. ’13).

The new award honors the memory and legacy of Hartford graduate and trumpet player Mark W. Lord ’79. Lord was a principal trumpet player of the Taipei Philharmonic Symphony in Taiwan for several years. He then moved to Reno, Nev., where he played in the band for the Helio, Hollywood, Idol show and freelanced for virtually all area ensembles in the Reno-Tahoe area. Lord also was a faculty instructor for continuing education at the University of Nevada—Reno.
CAMPUS NEWS

Harrison Receives Gerald R. Ford Award

President Walter Harrison (left) receives the NCAA’s Gerald R. Ford Award from NCAA President Mark Emmert.

University President Walter Harrison had a big week on the national collegiate athletics stage in January of this year. He was appointed to the Knight Commission on Intercollegiate Athletics on Jan. 14, and on Jan. 15 he was presented with the NCAA’s prestigious Gerald R. Ford Award.

At the 2015 NCAA Convention in Washington, D.C., Harrison received the Gerald R. Ford Award in recognition of his leading role in re-emphasizing academics in intercollegiate athletics and of his work to improve the academic success of student-athletes throughout the country. Over the past 10 years, Harrison has spearheaded sweeping academic reform efforts while serving as the first and only chair of the NCAA’s Division I Committee on Academic Performance.

The Ford Award is named in recognition of Gerald Ford, the 38th president of the United States, and a member of two national championships, football teams at the University of Michigan. The award honors an individual serving as the first and only chair of the NCAA’s Division I Committee on Academic Performance.

Inaugural Mark W. Lord ’79 Trumpet Award

Seth Bailey M’13, who is in the University’s Hartford School’s Graduate Professional Diploma program, received the inaugural Mark William Lord’79 Memorial Trumpet Award—a custom-built C trumpet—at a brass concert at Hartt this spring. The award honors graduate and undergraduate trumpet players who demonstrate talent, leadership, and dedication to learning.

Bailey has performed in the Iovianon Playhouse Orchestra as part of its summer-stock production of Dreamgirls, 40 Shook Up, and La Cage aux Foulques. He also played with the Julliard Wind Orchestra at Carnegie Hall for the 70th birthday celebration of classical composer John Corigliano (Nov. 13). The new award honors the memory and legacy of Hartford graduate and trumpeter player Mark W. Lord’79. Lord was a principal trumpet player of the Taipei Philharmonic Symphony in Taiwan for several years. He then moved to Reno, Nev., where he played in the band for the Felt, Hollywood Hotel show and freelance for virtually all area ensembles in the Reno-Tahoe area. Lord also was a faculty instructor for continuing education at the University of Nevada—Reno.

Appointment to the Knight Commission

Although he has stepped down from a position with the NCAA, Harrison will be able to continue his work to improve the academic success of student-athletes as a member of the Knight Commission on Intercollegiate Athletics. He was one of four new members appointed to the Knight Commission in the same week he received the Ford Award.

The other three new members are Penelope Ward Kyle, president, Radford University, G. “Bud” Peterson, president, Georgia Institute of Technology, and Nancy Zimpher, chancellor, State University of New York.

Following is an excerpt from the Knight Commission press release announcing the new appointments:

“The Knight Commission continues its work to promote a reform agenda that emphasizes the educational mission of college sports. Over the years, the NCAA has adopted a number of the Commission’s recommendations, including the rule that requires teams to be on track to graduate more than 50 percent of their players in order to be eligible for post-season championships.

“Walter Harrison has been particularly active on NCAA academic reforms, having chaired the NCAA’s Committee on Academic Performance since its establishment in 2004. That committee is most noted for its creation and oversight of the Academic Progress Rate, which tracks academic performance for all Division I sports teams and poses sanctions, including postseason restrictions, for teams that do not meet prescribed academic standards.”

University Faculty and Staff Receive $4.2 Million–Plus in Contracts and Grants

University of Hartford faculty and staff were awarded $4,246,967 in grants and contracts in fiscal year 2014 (July 1–June 30). Monies received supported faculty research, introduce new student programs, and enhance existing programs.

Nearly $20,000 was received to support the Hartford Scholars program, which provides half-fellowship scholarships to University of Hartford students who live in Hartford and graduated from Hartford public high schools or from suburban schools that participate in Project Choice, a state program to improve diversity in suburban school districts.

More than half of the fiscal year 2014 money, or $2,370,333, came from the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection as state funding for the Microgrid Project, part of the state’s plan to better prepare for destructive storms. Uhart is one of nine state organizations and municipalities approved in 2013 to receive this funding for disaster preparedness.

The money is being used to connect the University’s entire electrical system to the emergency diesel generators installed in 2007 alongside East Hall. Connecting the Village Apartments, Rigants Park, and Park River residence halls and the Konover Campus Center to the emergency generators solves the possible issue that more than half of the University’s student residents might be without power in the event of a widespread outage caused by a major storm. All other residence halls, the Sports Center, University Commons, Lincoln Theater, and the academic side of campus are already connected to the emergency generators.

The Microgrid Project began in November 2014, and Norm Young, associate vice president for facilities planning and management, hopes it will be finished by the end of this summer.

Three of the state-funded preparedness projects are at universities: UMaine, UConn, and Wesleyan University. In the event of a widespread power outage, the emergency generators on these campuses and six other locations will continue to deliver power to critical facilities like police stations, supermarkets, dormitories, city halls, senior centers, fire departments, gas stations, cell towers, and shelters.

In addition to providing emergency power, the generators on our campus can allow the University to operate independently from the region’s main electrical power grid when necessary. For example, in times of extreme heat, Eversource (formerly Northeast Utilities) has asked us to power up our emergency generators and take the campus off the power grid to increase capacity to the main electrical power grid during peak demand.

Hartford Art School Plans Helen S Kaman Print Study Center

Construction is expected to begin this summer at the University of Hartford’s Hartford Art School (HAS) to create the Helen S Kaman Print Study Center. The 500-plus-sq.-ft., temperature- and humidity-controlled space will house the more than 2,000 prints, drawings, photographs, and artists’ books in the HAS collection that are now in storage and difficult to access. The center will provide secured print storage areas, exhibition and display cases, and a viewing area for the study and research of works from the collection.

The center will honor Helen Kaman (1918–2010), who was on the HAS board (1983–89) and was an artist herself, participating in many solo and group shows. She and her husband, Charles, founded Kaman Aircraft. A $300,000 grant was received from the Charles H. Kaman Charitable Foundation to create the center.

“We feel privileged to be able to honor Helen Kaman in this manner and support the University and the Hartford Art School in this very special project,” said Glenn Messimer, secretary and trustee of the Charles H. Kaman Charitable Foundation. Messimer is a former trustee of the Hartford Art School and a regent of the University of Hartford. “She has been so helpful in the creation of the new space. Architecture graduate student Kayla Verbitksy ’12, M’15, created architectural design drawings for the space. Art school alumna Jancie La Motta ’78 created the donor proposal that provided a comprehensive overview of the needs for the proposed print study center.

Nancy Stuart, dean of the Hartford Art School, hopes to have the center ready for use by Spring 2016.
SPRING SPORTS ROUNDUP

O’SHEA MAKES HIS MARK

University of Hartford Men’s Lacrosse midfielder Kevin O’Shea capped off a stellar four years by being selected to play in the prestigious 74th United States Intercollegiate Lacrosse Association (USILA)LaxWorld Division III North-South Game in Radnor, Pa., in late May.

A three-time America East All-Conference selection, who earned First Team distinction in 2013 and 2015, O’Shea left his mark throughout UHart’s record books. He graduated as the fifth-best scorer in program history after racking up 175 points and is ranked fourth in goals (119) and eighth in assists (56). O’Shea also earned New England Intercollegiate Lacrosse Association (NEILA) All-New England honors for the second time in his career when he was placed on the First Team earlier this month.

Classmate Brian Monks joined Shea on the America East First Team. A trio of first-year players—Griffin Feiner, Dylan Protetto, and Ryan Vanderfor—were selected to the America East All-Rookie Team. Junior Kevin Sanne and Monks earned spots on the America East All-Academic Team. Protetto was also named to the NEILA All-New England Second Team.

The lacrosse team’s season was highlighted by its first-ever win against the University of Massachusetts, 15-8, on April 11—capping off a four-game winning streak.

BASEBALL TEAM HITS 20 WINS

The Hartford Hawks baseball program’s 9-0 shutout of Bryant, one of the best teams in New England, on May 13 secured the sixth 20-win season in school history. It was also the first time in more than two decades that UHart has recorded back-to-back 20-win seasons. The Hawks were one of four league teams that earned a trip in mid-May to the America East Championship in Lowell, Mass., where they were defeated by second-seeded UMBC.

A trio of Hawks was named to the 11-member All-Academic Team, including MacKinnon and junior starting pitcher Sam McKay, who each had a conference-best 3.95 GPA. Gauthier was also an All-Academic selection, finishing the year with a 3.69 GPA.

MacKinnon ended the regular season with a team-best .355 batting average, third highest in the America East. He entered the postseason one hit shy of tying Jeff Bagwell ’88 and Earl Snyder ’96 for the average, third highest in the America East. He entered the postseason finishing the year with a 3.69 GPA.

A trio of first-year players—Griffin Feiner, Dylan Protetto, and Ryan Vanderfor—were selected to the America East All-Rookie Team. Junior Kevin Sanne and Monks earned spots on the America East All-Academic Team. Protetto was also named to the NEILA All-New England Second Team.

MacKinnon ended the regular season with a team-best .355 batting average, third highest in the America East. He entered the postseason finishing the year with a 3.69 GPA.

A trio of Hawks was named to the 11-member All-Academic Team, including MacKinnon and junior starting pitcher Sam McKay, who each had a conference-best 3.95 GPA. Gauthier was also an All-Academic selection, finishing the year with a 3.69 GPA.

MacKinnon ended the regular season with a team-best .355 batting average, third highest in the America East. He entered the postseason one hit shy of tying Jeff Bagwell ’88 and Earl Snyder ’96 for the single-season record in hits, which currently stands at 65.

David MacKinnon ‘17

MORE CONFERENCE HONORS

UHart student-athletes continue to excel on the field and in the classroom. Here is a rundown of additional spring honors (as awarded by the America East Conference unless designated otherwise).

Men’s Golf

Cara Bernier ’17
All-Academic
Annamarie Malait ’16
All-Academic
Brooke Nethercott ’16
All-Academic
Maughan Ryan ’17
All-Academic
Collette Schmidt ’17
All-Academic
Women’s Golf

All-Women’s Golf team participates in the Big Sky Conference.

Women’s Soccer

All-Conference
Second-Team All-Conference

Colette Schmidt ’17
All-Academic
Women’s Golf team participates in the Big Sky Conference.

Softball

All-Academic
All-Academic
All-Academic

Women’s Tennis

All-Conference
Second-Team All-Conference

Men’s Tennis

All-Conference
Second-Team All-Conference

Men’s Track and Field

All-Conference
All-Conference
All-Conference

More conference honors

Men’s Golf

Cara Bernier ’17
All-Academic
Annamarie Malait ’16
All-Academic
Brooke Nethercott ’16
All-Academic
Maughan Ryan ’17
All-Academic
Collette Schmidt ’17
All-Academic

Women’s Golf

All-Women’s Golf team participates in the Big Sky Conference.

Women’s Soccer

All-Conference
Second-Team All-Conference

Colette Schmidt ’17
All-Academic
Women’s Golf team participates in the Big Sky Conference.

Softball

All-Academic
All-Academic
All-Academic

Women’s Tennis

All-Conference
Second-Team All-Conference

Men’s Tennis

All-Conference
Second-Team All-Conference

Men’s Track and Field

All-Conference
All-Conference
All-Conference

RUNNER IS STAYING ON TRACK

Chaz Davis ’16 ran his personal-best 5K time in the NEICAA New England Championships, held at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Boston in early May. That’s a nice accomplishment made even more laudable by the fact that, for the past year and a half, he has been losing his eyesight.

“Towards the end of his freshman year, Davis was stricken with Leber’s Hereditary Optic Neurpathy (LHON), a genetic disease that attacks the optic nerve.

At first, only the vision in his right eye was affected. Then, a few months later, the vision in his left eye also began to deteriorate. Despite the disease and its disabling effects, Davis keeps running, both literally and figuratively.

“Last year, it was tough to adjust to this. I did have a ‘woe is me’ moment, but then I realized the only way to move on was to move on, to keep as much of a sense of normalcy as possible,” he says with resolve. “I always had the mindset to do things for myself. Things won’t get done unless I do them for myself.”

That focus and determination are paying off. Davis is still on course academically to graduate next year with a major in criminal justice and a minor in psychology. While some suggested that he take a semester off to acculturate to his new situation, instead Davis, who is from Grafton, Mass., found ways to get his textbooks as audio books—“read by people with real voices instead of just computerized voices”—and to navigate through recorded notes on his computer.

Although he tries to be as independent as possible, Davis sometimes needs some help and support, and his track teammates, who are also his roommates, have stepped up. For example, to run outdoors, Davis has to run with teammates who make sure he avoids obstacles on the road. “My teammates look out for me,” he says.

“Everyone has been so supportive. They want me to succeed.”

Right now, success means graduating and going on to graduate school for a master’s degree in social work. He also wants to raise awareness of LHON and make resources more readily available to those affected. “I found the resources through research and talking to people, and I want to pass this information along to the other people who become affected by this disease,” he says.

The Student Athlete Advisory Committee held a “Chaz’s Champions” event in April to raise money and awareness for LHON. “That really touched me. I was overwhelmed with emotion. I really appreciate all the support; I wouldn’t be able to be successful without it.”

Davis also competed in the 5,000-meter run during the outdoor track season this year and says he hopes to run the 5K at the Paralympics someday.

Editor’s note: Watch a video about Davis’s story made by one of his former high school teammates who attends Emerson College in Boston. The video, titled Flash: The Chaz Davis Story, was entered into a competition run by the New England Sports Network. Watch it at https://youtu.be/t1Uuf5scyV8.

Pardon . . .

Two of our athletes were incorrectly identified in the “Sports Sherpa” photos in the winter 2014 issue (p. 28). All three players pictured are Jofy Chanel Johnson ’15 (soccer), Jeff Ryan ’17 (soccer), and Katy Hruschka ’18 (volleyball).
O’SHEA MAKES HIS MARK

University of Hartford Men’s Lacrosse midfielder Kevin O’Shea capped off a stellar four years by being selected to play in the prestigious 74th United States Intercollegiate Lacrosse Association (USILA) Louwried Division III North-South Game in Radnor, Pa., in late May.

A three-time America East All-Conference selection, who earned First Team distinction in 2013 and 2015, O’Shea left his mark throughout UHart’s record books. He graduated as the fifth-better scorer in program history after ranking up 175 points and is ranked fourth in goals (119) and eighth in assists (56). O’Shea also earned New England Intercollegiate Lacrosse Association (NEILA) All-New England honors for the second time in his career when he was placed on the First Team earlier this month.

Classmate Brian Monks joined Shea on the America East First Team. A trio of first-year players—Griffin Feiner, Dylan Protos, and Ryan Vanderford—were selected to the America East All-Rookie Team. Junior Kevin Samna and Morkis earned spots on the America East All-Academic Team. Protos was also named to the NEILA All-New England Second Team.

The lacrosse team’s season was highlighted by its first-ever win against the University of Massachusetts, 15-8, on April 11—capping off a four-game winning streak.

BASEBALL TEAM HITS 20 WINS

The Hartford Hawks baseball program’s 9-0 shutout of Bryant, one of the best teams in New England, on May 13 secured the sixth 20-win season in school history. It was also the first time in more than two decades that UHart has recorded back-to-back 20-win seasons. The Hawks were one of four league teams in New England, on May 13 secured the sixth 20-win season in school history.

MacKinnon ended the regular season with a team-best .355 batting average, third highest in the America East. He entered the postseason tournament on a two-game hitting streak of .333 against Bryant. MacKinnon was named the America East All-Academic selection, finishing the year with a 3.69 GPA.

MacKinnon ended the regular season with a team-best .355 batting average, third highest in the America East. He entered the postseason tournament on a two-game hitting streak of .333 against Bryant. MacKinnon was named the America East All-Academic selection, finishing the year with a 3.69 GPA.

MacKinnon ended the regular season with a team-best .355 batting average, third highest in the America East. He entered the postseason tournament on a two-game hitting streak of .333 against Bryant. MacKinnon was named the America East All-Academic selection, finishing the year with a 3.69 GPA.

MacKinnon ended the regular season with a team-best .355 batting average, third highest in the America East. He entered the postseason tournament on a two-game hitting streak of .333 against Bryant. MacKinnon was named the America East All-Academic selection, finishing the year with a 3.69 GPA.

MacKinnon ended the regular season with a team-best .355 batting average, third highest in the America East. He entered the postseason tournament on a two-game hitting streak of .333 against Bryant. MacKinnon was named the America East All-Academic selection, finishing the year with a 3.69 GPA.
Dear Fellow Alumni,

Back to the future.

That’s what your involvement is all about. Getting back on campus provides an opportunity to reminisce and recall your academic and personal growth, whether as an undergraduate or graduate student, and to marvel at your progress through the years. It also gives you an invigorating glimpse of the future: today’s engaged, enthusiastic, and professional students, who follow in your footsteps, look to your example, and actively chart their own path.

We have many ways for alumni to get involved. Share your career progress, professional expertise, and battle-tested advice with students eager to learn more about what you did with your University of Hartford education and how it helped to propel your career and enhance your life, often in ways you might not have imagined.

The exchange with students is energizing, and there has never been a life, often in ways you might not have imagined.

As you think back, this is the perfect time to look ahead. The first step may be to attend an alumni networking event in a city near you—Washington, New York, Philadelphia, Boston, Hartford—or a program on campus—a fascinating guest lecture, a stirring performance, or a fast-paced sporting event. There’s plenty to choose at this great University.

The University of Hartford Alumni Association is an exceptional organization made up of remarkable undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral alumni—people like you. We reconnect with former classmates, network with fellow alumni, support and encourage current students, and advocate on behalf of the University—for all it has done for us and all it continues to deliver to the next generation of graduates. And we contribute to the Anchor Fund, our investment in future alumni and the enduring value of our own degrees.

Circle October 16–18, Hawktober Weekend, on your calendar. If it’s been a while since you’ve been back with us, you may be surprised at just how much fun it is. Meanwhile, take a look at the alumni section of our website (www.hartford.edu/alumni) for an extensive calendar of events, and join us on social media to see how much is happening just about all the time. You can be part of things in so many ways.

Welcome back to the future. Well be glad to have you with us.

Bernard L. Kaveler ’79, M’88
President
University of Hartford Alumni Association
Dear Fellow Alumni,

That’s what your involvement is all about. Getting back on campus provides an opportunity to reminisce and recall your academic and personal growth, whether as an undergraduate or graduate student, and to marvel at your progress through the years. It also gives you an invigorating glimpse of the future: today’s engaged, enthusiastic, and passionate professor, who follows in your footsteps, to look up your way, and actively chart their own path.

We have many ways for alumni to get involved. Share your career progress, professional expertise, and battle-tested advice with students eager to learn more about what you did with your University of Hartford education and how it helped to propel your career and enhance your life, often in ways you might not have imagined.

The exchange with students is energizing, and there has never been a better time to reconnect with our University. You can speak with students in a class or a club of particular interest to you, participate in Express to Success during spring break, develop an internship where you work, or become a mentor.

No doubt, you had sources of inspiration on campus that continue to have a distinct impact on you. Perhaps it was a faculty member in your major whose insight remains a guidepost. Perhaps it was a faculty member in Professional in your field. Or it might have been a roommate or lab partner you’re still in touch with, even as your own Commencement has become a distant memory.

As you think back, this is the perfect time to look ahead.

The first step may be to attend an alumni networking event in a city near you—Washington, New York, Philadelphia, Boston, Hartford—or a program on campus—a fascinating guest lecture, a stirring performance, or a fast-paced sporting event. There’s plenty to choose at this great University.

The University of Hartford Alumni Association is an exceptional organization made up of remarkable undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral alumni—people like you. We reconnect with former classmates, network with fellow alumni, support and encourage current students, and advocate on behalf of the University—for all it has done for us and all it continues to deliver to the next generation of graduates. And we contribute to the Anchor Fund, our investment in future alumni and the enduring value of our own degrees.

Circle October 16-18, Hawktober Weekend, on your calendar. If it’s been a while since you’ve been back with us, you may be surprised at just how much fun it is. Meanwhile, take a look at the alumni section of our website (www.hartford.edu/alumni) for an extensive calendar of events, and join us on social media to see how much is happening near you—Washington, New York, Philadelphia, Boston, Hartford—whether online or in person.

SPRING 2015  2524  OBSERVER
WEDDINGS

CLOSINGS FROM TOP LEFT: Julie Sieden and Brian Marcucci ’03 (A&S) were married on Aug. 1, 2014, in Bristol, Conn., where they make their home. Emily Halton ’06 (A&S) and Jason Corneva were browning on their wedding day in May 2014 in West Conshohocken, N.J., in Macaroni Cheese Studio. Uhart alum Michelle Baratta ’06 (A&S) and Rebecca Neal ’05 (A&S) attended the nuptials. The newlyweds live in Boston, Mass. Maria Stipetico ’09 (A&S) and Chris Pidota ’09 (A&S) were married in August 2014 in Verona, N.J.

1986

WENDY JARDOUS CORMAN (A&S, ’90 BARNEY) of Colchester, Conn., was named executive vice president, North American sales and business development, by Zags. She has 26 years’ experience in managing major transportation organizations. Cormann has more than 27 years’ experience in managing major transportation programs in Connecticut.

1987

ROBERT VRIGNARD (ENGINEERING) of West Hartford, Conn., was named deputy area manager in the Glascow, Conn., office of Parsons Brinckerhoff, a global infrastructure consulting, construction, engineering, and program/construction management organization. Yogin has more than 27 years’ experience in managing major transportation programs in Connecticut.

1988

JUDITH MILLIONE (HAS, M’94 HAS) of Torrington, Conn., was honored by the Connecticut Economic Resource Center for her leadership and dedication to Northwestern Connecticut.

GAYLE GRIER MILLIARMAN (A&S) of Holton, Conn., was elected as a state representative for Connecticut’s 55th District. MilliARMAN is a former captain of the University’s Women’s Soccer team.

MATTHEW RILEY (M, BARNEY) of Marlboro, N.J., is shipping off the board of Anno Silver and Gold Mine Ltd. to become its capital markets strategist.

CLAUDIA LAROCQUE (A&S) of Manchester, Conn., has been appointed an instructor of accounting and finance at Manchester Community College.

1990

JOHN KENNEDY HAMPTON (A&S) of Tarryl, Conn., was re-elected to the Connecticut General Assembly in November 2014. He has represented the 39th District (Simsbury, Conn.) in the state legislature since 2012. Hampton, a Democrat, was appointed assistant majority leader and vice chairman of the Committee on Children. He is also a member of the committee on banking, aging, and planning and development.

GENE TOLOMOZO (M, A&S) of Newark, N.J., was selected as the 2014 New York Society of Physicians Assistants Physician of the Year. The honor was awarded based on inspiration, service, and integrity.

1991

BRENDAN BOYD (WALL) of Poughkeepsie, N.Y., has been actively pursuing his acting career. His latest role includes several scenes opposite Oscar winner Melissa Leo in Bedford, N.Y., now streaming on Netflix.

KIMBERLY O’BRIEN (M, BARNEY) of West Hartford, Conn., has joined Operation Fuel as its director of development. Her responsibilities include managing Operation Fuel’s development, fundraising, and marketing functions.

JAMIE MCINTYRE (HAS) of London, England, has opened the Goldstone Gallery in How, United Kingdom.

JEANNE SIDERS-DIGUGIOCO (ENHP) of West Hartford, Conn., head volleyball coach at Northwest Catholic High School in West Hartford, was installed in the school’s inaugural Hall of Fame as its first coach inductee. Siders-Digugio is a 2005 University of Hartford Alumni Athletics Hall of Fame inductee as well. She and her husband, Dave, have two daughters in middle school.

1992

THESEAS CASEY (M, BARNEY) of Columbus, Ohio, was recognized by the prestigious Society for Marketing Professional Services when her consulting firm, On Target Marketing & Communications, LLC, received the gold medal for taking the top three places for feature writing.

MAMMA HAMMICK (M, A&S) of Akron, Conn., was appointed sales manager of the Simsbury and Glastonbury, Conn., offices of Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage.

1993

CHRISTINE KORENKHIN SMITH (HARTT, M’98 HARTT) of Delta 18, performed Vivaldi’s Gloria as well as several other a capella pieces with Quo 24, a Doulcet-based choral group.

1994

DAVID PRITIKIN (A&S) of West Hollywood, CA, was appointed by Anonymous Content to head its Unscripted TV Division. Pritikin was formerly an Emmy Award-winning producer with the Discovery Channel.

1995

AARON N. FLYNN (HAS) of Lubbock, Texas, is an MFA candidate at the College of Visual Art and Design, Toussaint Graduate School, University of North Texas. His MFA thesis show, Pursuit of Nothing, is an interdisciplinary exploration of media ranging from clay to video clay. Flynn plans to teach after graduating in May.

1996

CHRISTINA CONNORS (HARTT) of Greenwich, Conn., created and performed in A New Soul Song, which premiered with two live performances in November 2014. Through music, the production encourages children and their families to be kind to one another, while raising awareness of the issue of bullying.

MATT DUDACK (HARTT). See JOSPEH VAN HASSEL ’13.

1997

JAMES "JIMMY" GREENE (HAS) of Sandy Hook, Conn., released a new album titled Beautiful Life, a celebration of life in honor of his daughter, Aria Grace.

1998

SHANE SHANKLE (M, HARTT) of Watertown, Mass., welcomed their daughter, Sybil Marie, on Oct. 10, 2014.

1999

PAULEtte TOWERS-LAMmE (M, HARTT) of Bluffton, SC, in the CEO and founder of CHEEKSAY™ Toys & More. She has written several children’s books, including some sing-a-long with activities. Her company, which is part of the University’s Upper Albany Main Street Project, is sponsoring a Uhart intern this year.

2000

DONNA FEStA (M, A&S) of Bangor, Maine, and her work were featured in the cover story in Artvoices magazine (Winter 2014). The article focuses on a series titled Old Couple by Festa, a figurative artist.

SAGAR KURADE (M, A&S) of New Delhi, India, reunited with fellow alum RAGHUNATH MUDA N YAT (BARNEY) of Bombay, India. Kurade is the managing director at Samain Project Consultants. Munda is a director at ALBRIGHT CHEMICAL, which makes organic dyes for plywood.

2001

NIKOLETA MITIQUE (M, BARNEY) of Old Lyme, Conn., is a partner at the architecture firm of BlumShapir, the largest regional accounting and business consulting firm.

2002

Howie Was a Hatching Once Too

HOWARD "HOWIE" KAUSMAN ’03 (BARNEY) (right) of Speculator, N.Y., visited the University’s Sports Center in January and had a chance to spend some time with his namesake, Howie the Hawk (left). Kausman’sservice as Uhart’s mascot ran from 1987 to 1989, our larger-than-a-hawk’s-life mascot became known as Howie the Hawk.

2003

SHANE SHANKLE (M, HARTT) of Watertown, Mass., welcomed their daughter, Sybil Marie, on Oct. 10, 2014.

2004

GENE TOLOMOZO (M, A&S) of Newark, N.J., was selected as the 2014 New York Society of Physicians Assistants Physician of the Year. The honor was awarded based on inspiration, service, and integrity.

2005

BRENDAN BOYD (WALL) of Poughkeepsie, N.Y., has been actively pursuing his acting career. His latest role includes several scenes opposite Oscar winner Melissa Leo in Bedford, N.Y., now streaming on Netflix.

KIMBERLY O’BRIEN (M, BARNEY) of West Hartford, Conn., has joined Operation Fuel as its director of development. Her responsibilities include managing Operation Fuel’s development, fundraising, and marketing functions.

JAMIE MCINTYRE (HAS) of London, England, has opened the Goldstone Gallery in How, United Kingdom.

JEANNE SIDERS-DIGUGIOCO (ENHP) of West Hartford, Conn., head volleyball coach at Northwest Catholic High School in West Hartford, was installed in the school’s inaugural Hall of Fame as its first coach inductee. Siders-Digugio is a 2005 University of Hartford Alumni Athletics Hall of Fame inductee as well. She and her husband, Dave, have two daughters in middle school.

1992

THESEAS CASEY (M, BARNEY) of Columbus, Ohio, was recognized by the prestigious Society for Marketing Professional Services when her consulting firm, On Target Marketing & Communications, LLC, received the gold medal for taking the top three places for feature writing.

MAMMA HAMMICK (M, A&S) of Akron, Conn., was appointed sales manager of the Simsbury and Glastonbury, Conn., offices of Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage.

1993

CHRISTINE KORENKHIN SMITH (HARTT, M’98 HARTT) of Delta 18, performed Vivaldi’s Gloria as well as several other a capella pieces with Quo 24, a Doulcet-based choral group.

1994

DAVID PRITIKIN (A&S) of West Hollywood, CA, was appointed by Anonymous Content to head its Unscripted TV Division. Pritikin was formerly an Emmy Award-winning producer with the Discovery Channel.

1995

AARON N. FLYNN (HAS) of Lubbock, Texas, is an MFA candidate at the College of Visual Art and Design, Toussaint Graduate School, University of North Texas. His MFA thesis show, Pursuit of Nothing, is an interdisciplinary exploration of media ranging from clay to video clay. Flynn plans to teach after graduating in May.

1996

CHRISTINA CONNORS (HARTT) of Greenwich, Conn., created and performed in A New Soul Song, which premiered with two live performances in November 2014. Through music, the production encourages children and their families to be kind to one another, while raising awareness of the issue of bullying.

MATT DUDACK (HARTT). See JOSPEH VAN HASSEL ’13.

2000

DONNA FEStA (M, A&S) of Bangor, Maine, and her work were featured in the cover story in Artvoices magazine (Winter 2014). The article focuses on a series titled Old Couple by Festa, a figurative artist.

SAGAR KURADE (M, A&S) of New Delhi, India, reunited with fellow alum RAGHUNATH MUDA N YAT (BARNEY) of Bombay, India. Kurade is the managing director at Samain Project Consultants. Munda is a director at ALBRIGHT CHEMICAL, which makes organic dyes for plywood.

2001

NIKOLETA MITIQUE (M, BARNEY) of Old Lyme, Conn., is a partner at the architecture firm of BlumShapir, the largest regional accounting and business consulting firm.
Howie’s Alumni Engagement Quiz

How many of the following have you done as an alum or member of the UHart family? Find out if you are a “Soaring Hawk. I have:

- Attended or hosted an alumni event where I live, or have recently traveled to the campus.
- Been “found and proud” wearing a piece of UHart apparel.
- Paid it forward by signing up to be a career mentor or guest speaker in a classroom.
- Walked down memory lane with my classmates at Hawktober Weekend.
- Kept up-to-date by reading emails and small mails sent from UHart and the Alumni Association.
- Read Observer magazine cover to cover.
- Made the experience for an existing student better by donating to the UHart Annual Fund.
- Taken advantage of one of the many perks the Alumni Hub app.
- Been “loud and proud” wearing a piece of UHart apparel.
- Made sure the University is up-to-date with where I am and what I am doing, while snail mails sent from UHart and the classmates at Hawktober Weekend.
- Continued volunteerism and charitable endeavors.
- Walked down memory lane with my classmates.
- Married in December 2013 in Quincy, Mass.
- Checked page 30 to see where you stand.

WEDDINGS

CLOSED DATES FROM TOP LEFT

- Julie Fried and Brian Marcanton ‘83 (AAS) were married on Aug. 1, 2014, in Boston, Conn., where they make their home.
- Emily Hartley ‘86 (AAS) and Jason Conners are bewailing their wedding day in May 2014 in West Cour塘, N.Y., in New York’s Hudson Valley. UHart alum Michelle Baratta ‘96 (AAS) and Rebecca Noel ‘96 (AAS) attended the nuptials. The newlyweds call Boston, Mass., home.
- Maria Stepinskas ‘09 (AAS) and Chris Padilla ‘09 (AAS) were married in August 2014 in Vineland, N.J.

SUSAN M. DORVILLERS (M. BARNEY) of Middletown, Conn., has been appointed development officer of Family Centered Services at CT. She is chair of the board of directors for the Law. E. Cole Library and volunteers with the American Diabetes Association. O’Dellers was the 2014 recipient of a Golden Dozen Award from the Exchange Club of Middletown and Durham for her continued volunteerism and charitable endeavors.

ANDREW KAPLAN (M, BARNEY) of Middlefield, Conn., has been appointed development officer of Family Centered Services at CT. She is chair of the board of directors for the Law. E. Cole Library and volunteers with the American Diabetes Association. O’Dellers was the 2014 recipient of a Golden Dozen Award from the Exchange Club of Middletown and Durham for her continued volunteerism and charitable endeavors.

JOHN KENNEDY HAMPTON, a Democrat, was appointed assistant majority leader and vice chairman of the Committee on Children. On the Global A List

DONNA FESTA (M, HARTT) of Bangor, Maine, and her work were featured as the cover story in Advocate magazine (Winter 2014). The article focuses on a series titled “Old Couple” by Festa, a figural artist.

SAGAR KURADE (M. BARNEY) (left) of New Delhi, India, married with Rashmi RAJENDRA MUNDA W’78 (BARNEY) (right) of Valley Stream, N.Y., who has been in India for several years. India. Kurade is the managing director of Samar Project Consultants. Munda is a director at Albion Chemicals, which makes organic rains for plywood. NIKOLETA MUSIQUE (M. BARNEY) of Old Lyme, Conn., was a partner of the accomplished duo of BlumShapiris, the largest regional accounting and business consulting firm.

PAULETTE TOWERS-LAURENCE (SK7, HARTT), of Bloomingdale, N.J., is the CEO and founder of CHEEKY! Toy & More. She has written several children’s books, including some sing-a-long with activities. Her company which is part of the University’s Upper Albany Main Street Project, is sponsoring a UHart intern this year.

1986

WENDY KARDS CORMAN (AAS, M’90 BARNEY) of Colchester, Conn., was named executive vice president, North American sales and business development, by Zags.

1987

ROBERT VIRGIN (ENGINEERING) of West Hartford, Conn., was named deputy area manager in the Gloucester, Conn., office of Parsons Mincklerthoff, a global infrastructure consulting, engineering, and ( Meghan's construction management) organization. Virgin has more than 27 years experience in managing major transportation programs in Connecticut.

1988

JUDITH MELCHIONE (HAS, M’94 HAS) of Torrington, Conn., was honored by the Connecticut Economic Resource Center for her leadership and dedication to Northwood Connecticut.

1989

ROBERT YIRIGIAN (A&S, M’90 BARNEY) of Marlboro, N.J., is the new president of the Association for Respiratory Care. He is also a member of the committee on banking, aging, and planning and development.

GENE TOLOMEO (M, HAS) of Newbury, N.J., was selected as the 2014 New York Society of Physician Assistants’ Physician of the Year. The honor was awarded based on inspiration, service, and integrity.

1991

BRENDA BOYCE (M’99 HARTT) of Poughkeepsie, N.Y., has been actively pursuing her acting career. Her latest role includes several scenes opposite Oscar winner Melissa Leo in Bedford (red), now streaming on Netflix.

KIMBERLY O’DONNELL GREEN (M. BARNEY) of West Hartford, Conn., has joined Operation Fuel as its director of development. Her responsibilities include managing Operation Fuel’s development, fundraising, and marketing functions.

JANICE MCCARTHY (HAS) of London, England, has opened the Goldbine Gallery in How, United Kingdom.

JEANNE SIDERS-QUIGGOM (EMH) of West Hartford, Conn., head volleyball coach at Northwest Catholic High School in West Hartford, was installed in the school’s inaugural Hall of Fame as its first inductee. Siders-Quiggom is a 2005 University of Hartford Alumni Athletics Hall of Fame inductee as well. She and her husband, David, have two daughters in middle school.

THREE CASEY (M. BARNEY) of Columbus, Ohio, was recognized by the prestigious Society for Market Research Professionals for her consulting firm, On Target Marketing & Communications, LLC. Her history by taking the top-three places for feature writing.

MAURA HAMMICK (M. BARNEY) of Ann, Conn., was appointed sales manager of the Simsbury and Glastonbury, Conn., offices of Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage.

1992

CHRISTINE KORENKRAM SMITH (M/T, M’99 HARTT) of Decatur, Ill., performed Wilson’s Golliwog. as well as several other art pieces with Quinn 24, a Decatur-based choral group.

1994

DAVID PREITKE (M. BARNEY) of West Hollywood, Calif., was appointed by Anonymous Content to head its Unscripted TV Division. Pritken was formerly an Emmy Award-winning producer with the Discovery Channel.

1995

AARON W. FLYON (HAS) of Lisle, Texas, is an MFA candidate at the College of Visual Art and Design, Toulose Graduate School, University of North Texas. His MFA thesis show, Paper: A National, is an interdisciplinary exploration of materials ranging from clay to video. Flynn plans to teach after graduating in May.

2000

CHRISTINA CONNORS (HAS) of Greenwich, Conn., created and performed in a New Soul Song, which premiered with two live performances in November 2014. Through music, the production encourages children and their families to be kind to one another, while raising awareness on the issue of bullying.

MATT DUDACK (BARNEY).

Seem SOUP VAN HASSEL ‘13.

Howie Was a Hatchling Once Too

Howard “Howie” Kaseman ‘83 (Barney) (right) of Specia, N.J., visited the University’s Sports Center in January and had a chance to spend some time with his namesake, Howie the Hawk (left). Kaseman’s tenure as UHart’s mascot from 1987 to 1990, our larger-than-a-Hawk’s-life mascot became known as Howie the Hawks.

1997

JAMES “JIMMY” GREENE (HARTT) of Sandy Hook, Conn., released a new album titled Beautiful Life, a celebration of life in honor of his daughter, Ana Grace.

1998

JAYE ONG KIM (M) of Long Island City, N.Y., had an exhibition titled Donald Rush at the Lyons-Weir-Gallery in New York, N.Y.

SHANE SHANKMAN (M. HARTT).
ANNE KOSCHELNY, concert pianist and former professor of music for 23 years at the University of Hartford’s Hartt School (then Hartt School of Music), died on Feb. 15, 2015, at her home in Heath, Mass. She performed and lectured throughout the United States, Canada, Great Britain, Europe, South America, and Asia. Her husband, Raymond Hanson, was also a Hartt faculty member.

ROBERT A. SIMONS ’59, a dedicated University of Hartford life regent, supporter, and donor, died on Feb. 12, 2015, at his home in West Hartford, Conn. An alumnus of the University’s Barney School of Music, Simons was a co-founder of Hartt & Simons Realtors and served on the University of Hartford Board of Regents from 1996 to 2005. He was elected a life regent in 2006.

Phyllis B. Schmidt Bergland ’41 (HARTT) North Kingstown, R.I. 3.8.15
George D. Maharan ’47 (HARTT) Wellingtngton, Conn. 5.18.14
Edward F. Ackia ’49 (HARTT) Farmington, Conn. 2.21.15
Beverly M. Mitchell A’50 (HARTT) South Bend, Ind. 12.17.14
Andrea Z. Kamarian Kato ’50 (HAS) Norwich, Conn. 3.18.14
Lewis Mauz A’50 (HARTT) West Hartford, Conn. 10.29.14
Richard J. Barone A’49, ’51 (HAS, A’55, ENHP, HARTT) New Britain, Conn. 1.9.15
Estile A Delficilia ’51 (HAS) Westfield, N.J. 1.19.15
Thomas W. Ash K’51 (HARTT) West Hartford, Conn. 2.20.15
George R. Cooke C’52 (Ward) Ellington, Conn. 17.35
Mary L. Johnson M’53 (ENHP) Indianapolis, Ind. 9.24.14
Lino J. Conti M’54, C’60 (HAS) New London, Conn. 2.23.15
Edward J. Rimmensaal C’60 (HAS) Miami Beach, Fla. 3.4.15
Josephine C. Baby ’61 (HARTT) Westfield, Mass. 3.18.15
Michael C. Lohman ’61 (HARTT) Ashford, Conn. 1.19.15
Van J. Bedrossian ’62, ’63 (ENHP) Uncasville, Conn. 1.29.15
Bruce B. Kauffman (CETA) Niantic, Conn. 2.7.15
Robert H. Link ’87 (Ward) Windsor, Conn. 2.11.15
Kathleen Murphy A’97, ’98 (HAS) Wethersfield, Conn. 2.15.15
Gary J. Sertich ’68 (HAS) Hamden, Conn. 12.20.13
Barbara R. Apgar ’69, ’70 (HAS) Wilton, Conn. 2.1.15
Robert H. Link ’87 (Ward) Windsor, Conn. 2.11.15
JESSICA FINE SOWALSKY (A’15, HAS) of Barre, Vt., has been appointed to the University of Massachusetts Medical School in Worcester, Mass.

JOSHUA SMITH (M’09) of Farmington, Conn., had his poetic-surrealist artwork exhibited at the Red Dot Fair in Miami, Fla.

2006
RYAN BAUER-MALLS (M’09) of New York, N.Y., has published his first book, Roddy the Rescue Ape about Shigeru Oda and his illustration for a Middle-Grader Curriculum. Bauer-Walsh is also a casting associate for Alan Fraser Casting. He has completed production of Losing Lies with fellow alumnus AMANDA STUART ELF (HARTT) of the North Shore Music Theatre in Beverly, Mass.

2008
SUSAN SHAPIRO (M’68) of Great Neck, N.Y., was named creative director at the Gene Siskel Film Center in Chicago, Ill., in October 2014. Creative Writing is a fictional feature film about the dreams and delusions of a community-college creative writing class in contact with reality.

MARCH WILLIAMS (HARTT) of Hartford, Conn., is the new artistic director of Le Petit Théâtre du Veau Corin in New Orleans, La.

2009
MARTY ALBOTT (A’63) of Lithium, Conn., was selected as a finalist for the Rhode Island Film Festival’s Student Award of the Year. 2010
JESSICA FINE SOWALSKY (A’15, HAS) of Barre, Vt., has been appointed to the University of Massachusetts Medical School in Worcester, Mass.

2013
LAUREN FIRTEL (HAS) of New York, N.Y., is currently working on her television appearances.

2014
KARL HUDSON (A’97) of New York, N.Y., is a freelance photographer based in Brooklyn who has been named a NY1 Top 25 Power Player for his photography of New York City landmarks.

2015
AMANDA STUART ELF (HARTT) of the North Shore Music Theatre in Beverly, Mass.

2016
SUZANNE RACKIN (A’67, AAR) of Great Neck, N.Y., is the new artistic director of The Gene Siskel Film Center in Chicago.

2017
DENISE ZUPPIRIGLIO (A’66) of West Hartford, Conn., is the new artistic director of The Gene Siskel Film Center in Chicago.

2019
NANETTE C. FERGUSON (M’10 M’11) of Farmington, Conn., is the new artistic director of The Gene Siskel Film Center in Chicago.

2020
JONATHAN MOSKES (A’68) of New York, N.Y., is the new artistic director of The Gene Siskel Film Center in Chicago.

2022
KARL HUDSON (A’97) of New York, N.Y., is the new artistic director of The Gene Siskel Film Center in Chicago.

2023
SAUL KAMINS (A’79) of New York, N.Y., is the new artistic director of The Gene Siskel Film Center in Chicago.

2024
JOSHUA SMITH (M’09) of Farmington, Conn., had his poetic-surrealist artwork exhibited at the Red Dot Fair in Miami, Fla.

2005
GEOFFREY HARRIS (M’11) HARTT.

2006
JOEY VAN NELLES (M’13) HARTT.

2006
AARON BAUER-WALSH (M’09) is a casting associate for Six Months at Chevelles Academy’s Kohn-Joseloff Gallery.

2008
RAINA BAYER-MALLS (M’09) of New York, N.Y., has published his first book, Roddy the Rescue Ape about Shigeru Oda and his illustration for a Middle-Grader Curriculum. Bauer-Walsh is also a casting associate for Alan Fraser Casting. He has completed production of Losing Lies with fellow alumnus AMANDA STUART ELF (HARTT) of the North Shore Music Theatre in Beverly, Mass.

2008
EVA LULLIA (M’12) of Chicago, Ill., is the new artistic director of the Chicago LGBT Center.

2009
ERAN TAMAZI (M’12) of Plantville, Conn., has been named a new law enforcement officer with the Connecticut State Police Department.

2010
CHERYL DUGGAN (M’10) of Brooklyn, N.Y., is currently working on her television appearances.

2011
MARC SODENBERG (M’10, A’00) of Chicago, Ill., is the new artistic director of the Chicago LGBT Center.

2012
CHIARA CHERMAN (M’12) of New York, N.Y., is the new artistic director of The Gene Siskel Film Center in Chicago.

2013
SCOTT SODENBERG (M’10) of New York, N.Y., is currently working on his television appearances.

2014
JOSHUA SMITH (M’09) of Farmington, Conn., had his poetic-surrealist artwork exhibited at the Red Dot Fair in Miami, Fla.

2015
GEOFFREY HARRIS (M’11) HARTT.

2005
GEOFFREY HARRIS (M’11) HARTT.

2005
JOEY VAN NELLES (M’13) HARTT.

2006
RAINA BAYER-MALLS (M’09) of New York, N.Y., has published his first book, Roddy the Rescue Ape about Shigeru Oda and his illustration for a Middle-Grader Curriculum. Bauer-Walsh is also a casting associate for Alan Fraser Casting. He has completed production of Losing Lies with fellow alumnus AMANDA STUART ELF (HARTT) of the North Shore Music Theatre in Beverly, Mass.
Robert A. Simons ’59, a dedicated University of Hartford life regent, supporter, and donor, died on Feb. 12, 2015, at his home in West Hartford, Conn. An alumnus of the University’s Barney School of Business, Simons was a co-founder of Hurwit & Simon Realtors and served on the University of Hartford Board of Regents from 1996 to 2005. He was elected a life regent in 2006.

Phyllis B. Schmidt Berglund A’41 (HAS), North Kingston, R.I., March 25, 2015.


Beverley M. Mitchell A’48 (HAS, HLY), South Bend, Ind., Dec. 12, 2014.


Jean A. Ward A’50 (A&S), West Hartford, Conn., Nov. 29, 2014.


Geraldine F. Baldul A’50 (ENHP), Norwalk, Conn., Sept. 1, 2014.


Emily J. Rives-Baldul C’50 (ENHP), Miami Beach, Fla., March 11, 2014.

Joan P. Dressler ’50 (HAS, ENHP), Huntington, N.Y., Sept. 1, 2014.


Marie L. Johnson M’53 (ENHP), Indiana, Ind., March 14, 2014.


Lewis Mazur A’50 (ENHP), West Hartford, Conn., Oct. 12, 2014.


Mary E. Ohlson ’50 (ENHP), East Hartford, Conn., Dec. 29, 2014.


Anne S. Bronner ’56 (ENHP), Norwalk, Conn., Dec. 13, 2014.

Albert J. Rimouskas M’57, M’58 (ENHP), Windsor, Conn., Dec. 12, 2014.


Roland E. Malbouw A’70 (ENHP), Windsor, Conn., Dec. 15, 2014.

John S. Roth B’70 (ENHP), West Hartford, Conn., Feb. 11, 2015.


F. Phillip Raimondo M’70, M’85 (ENHP), Hartford, Conn., Feb. 21, 2015.


Michael E. Kondo ’70 (ENHP), New Britain, Conn., Mar. 17, 2015.

Estelle G. DeNicola ’51 (HAS, ENHP), Salem, N.H., Sept. 16, 2014.

Michael R. Wambolt M’80 (ENHP), West Hartford, Conn., May 19, 2015.


David W. Booth ’65 (HAS), Mansfield, Conn., Feb. 12, 2015.

James A. Mancuso ’66 (HAS, ENHP), Norwalk, Conn., Nov. 11, 2014.

Marcia A. Brumfield ’66 (ENHP), Bristol, Conn., Dec. 10, 2014.


Howie’s Alumni Engagement Quiz Answer:

If you have done any of these one thing, you are a Soaring Hawk. Like all good parents, Howie does not play favorites with his many baby Hawks. All he really wants is a call from you. If you are a Soaring Hawk, you can help Howie create a future where the Hawks fly higher. How will you answer this call?

Class notes are also available online on the Alumni page at hartford.edu.
2012
LAUREN E. HILL (HARTT) of Portmouth, N.H., has been signed by an agency and has worked in California for the past two years. She appeared in Donnie's Dearset at the MET Theatre in Los Angeles and has done work for ABC.

AARON KERRODICE (AD) of Hartfort, Conn., has published his second book, The Beatles and the Mind Games, about the Beatles’ experimental works. Kerrodice, a professional Beatles scholar and author, regularly delivers presentations throughout Connecticut.

2013
SEBASTIAN COLETT (M, HAS) of Colchester, Conn., has been awarded a six-week residency at the Künstlerhaus Schlesiz in Saxonia, Austria. Only six such residencies are granted each year by the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts. Collett is a 2013 graduate of the Hartford Art School’s international residency MFA in interdisciplinary program.

2014
JOSEPH VAN HASSEL (AD, HARTT) of Astoria, N.Y.; and AARON KREROWICZ (M, HARTT) of Columbus, Ohio, were among the featured artists in the one-woman show “Spank! The Fifty Shades Parody,” performed at the MET Theatre in Los Angeles and has done work for Pacific Standard.

2015
SEBASTIAN COLETT (M, HAS) of San Francisco, Calif., created a 2070 AD and 2080s photography exhibitions at the Buxley Gallery in Las Vegas. New.

JOSEPH VAN HASSEL (AD, HARTT) of Astoria, N.Y.; and AARON KREROWICZ (M, HARTT) of Columbus, Ohio, were among the featured artists in the one-woman show “Spank! The Fifty Shades Parody,” performed at the MET Theatre in Los Angeles and has done work for Pacific Standard.
The campus as we know it today was just beginning to emerge when Barry Sandrew '70—founder of Legend3D, a leading Hollywood visual effects studio—arrived in the fall of 1966. He remembers the opening of the residential halls and Gengras Student Union in 1967.

“I was there when they broke ground for the dorms and when Gengras was first opened. In fact, I was one of the first students to sit in the cafeteria. I have so many great memories of those days such as having coffee in the cafeteria across from poet Allen Ginsberg with a few of my friends,” remembers Sandrew.

“It was in the psych department, under my advisor Julian Streitfeld, that I found my career direction. He introduced me to neuroscientist Bob Correll and famed neurosurgeon William Scoville. They gave me an internship in their Hartford Hospital laboratory and introduced me to the field of brain research, kicking off my journey,” he adds.

From that introduction, Sandrew went on to earn his PhD in neuroscience at Stony Brook University. In 1979, after a two-year National Institutes of Health fellowship at Columbia University, College of Physicians and Surgeons, he joined Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School as staff neuroscientist. Then, his career suddenly veered.

“I was approached by Hollywood entrepreneurs who had learned of my work in medical imaging. They asked me to invent a process for colorizing black and white movies that was superior to what was then available for the entertainment industry. That was a tall order and I was committed to my career in neuroscience, but they made me an offer I simply couldn’t refuse and I eventually left Harvard and academia behind.”

What Sandrew invented was the first all-digital process for colorizing classic feature films. He then founded American Film Technologies and Ted Turner, along with most of the major studios in Hollywood and three television networks, became his client. He also invented the first paperless animation system for producing TV cartoons and a digital ink-and-paint and visual effects compositing system that was used on Steven Spielberg’s first digital animated film, We’re Back: A Dinosaur Story.

In 1993 Sandrew’s career took another detour when he co-founded, Lightspan, a company that became one of the largest educational software producers in the country, selling K–6 edutainment curriculum to entire school districts. That company went public and was later acquired by Plato Learning.

“Then in 2000 I went back to the entertainment industry, inventing a much more sophisticated colorization process and founding Legend Films (2001). There, we colorized 180 movies and produced visual effects for such films as Scorsese’s The Aviator and the HBO series Entourage.

“In the fall of 2006 it became clear to me that 3D was going to become a game changer in Hollywood and I was determined to be a major player in that industry. Consequently, I diverted all of my R&D to create a process for converting 2D footage to 3D. In 2009, after doing conversion and visual effects for Michael Jackson’s This Is It tour, I felt that the technology and my team were ready to enter the 3D fray.”

After Avatar was released in December 2009, Sandrew changed the name of his company to Legend3D and was immediately awarded the conversion of Alice in Wonderland for Disney, followed by the Shrek trilogy for Dreamworks and Transformers: Dark of the Moon for Paramount. Over the succeeding years, Barry’s team has worked on many of the most successful feature films released by the major Hollywood studios including the recently released Pottergeist and Zemeckis’s soon-to-be-released The Walk.

“Going from neuroscience to colorization, to educational software, back to colorization and visual effects and then to 3D feature filmmaking, one might say that I’ve taken a rather unconventional career path. Today I’m exploring opportunities in augmented reality, which I see becoming ubiquitous within the next four years and like with 3D, I’m determined to be a major player in its evolution.”

“I’m always cognizant of the fact that this journey started at the University of Hartford, where I was fortunate enough to connect with mentors who recognized that my true potential was not necessarily reflected in my grades but rather in my vision for scientific and technological trends and my insight into innovative solutions to unique problems.”
Hawktober
HOME COMING AND PARENTS WEEKEND
OCTOBER 16–18, 2015

» Hang with Howie
» Cheer the Hawks on to victory
» Reconnect with your UHart family
» Check out the new Commons

REUNION ROW
Celebrating Reunion Class Years
2015 • 2010 • 2005 • 1990

University of Hartford
ANCHOR FUND
SECURING THE FUTURE WITH YOUR SUPPORT

to make a gift
Visit: hartford.edu/giving
Call: 860.768.2400
Mail: Use the convenient postage-paid envelope to mail your check, payable to University of Hartford.

Nearly 1,100 graduates completed a chapter in the success stories of their lives in May. Your gift to the Anchor Fund provides merit- and need-based financial aid and supports student experiences that help them realize there’s no limit to how far they can go.

Please make a gift today.
From left: Peter Silverman, Ryan Larrier, and Jacob Bongiovanni show off one of their biology-themed graduation caps at the Undergraduate Commencement ceremony on May 17.