**EIO IS NEW REGENTS CHAIRMAN**

Peter Eio, former president of LEGO Systems, Inc., was elected chairman of the Board of Regents on May 9. He succeeds Arnold C. Greenberg, who will remain on the board after having served as chair for the maximum period of five years.

“This University is indebted to Arnold for his vision, commitment, and leadership during years when we have seen burgeoning enrollment, a significant strengthening of our financial condition, major physical improvements to the campus, the construction and opening of the Magnet School, and a resurgence of campus spirit,” President Walter Harrison said in a May 9 letter to the University community. “Arnold has been a valued member of the University community since his initial year as a regent in 1970. We are truly fortunate that he will continue as a regent.”

Eio, who became a regent in 1991 and served as vice-chair of the board from 1995 to 2000, has “an unyielding commitment to education and the community,” Harrison said. Eio also has been serving as chairman of the Campaign of Commitment Steering Committee.

Born and educated in England, Eio is an alumnus of the IMD Business School in Lausanne, Switzerland, and has worked in Britain, Denmark, and Sweden. “His global expertise will be invaluable as the University seeks more international students and academic partnerships,” Harrison said.

Eio has enjoyed a distinguished career of almost four decades of marketing and management experience with some of the world’s top consumer brands. He was named president of LEGO Systems, Inc., in January 1989, and until his retirement two years ago, he made LEGO one of the most respected names in the toy industry. Prior to moving to the United States, Eio spent seven years as managing director of LEGO U.K. Limited.

“Arnold has helped guide us into a golden age. There is no doubt that Peter will enable us to fulfill the even greater promise that the future holds for the University of Hartford,” Harrison said.

**WELCOME, DEAN VOELKER**

Joseph C. Voelker became dean of the College of Arts and Sciences (A&S) effective July 1. Voelker comes to the University of Hartford from Franklin & Marshall College in Pennsylvania, where he was associate dean of the faculty for four years and a professor of English since 1991.

Voelker succeeds Edward Gray, who announced last October that he would be stepping down as dean of A&S to return to full-time teaching.

“Joe’s experience, enthusiasm, and commitment to higher education made him the perfect candidate for this position, and we are truly fortunate to welcome him to our University community,” said Donna Randall, provost.

Voelker has a distinguished background as an educator and administrator. As associate dean of faculty at Franklin & Marshall, he served as liaison to the dean’s office for half of all academic departments and all interdisciplinary programs. He also chaired the college’s educational policy committee and oversaw the implementation of a new interdisciplinary general education curriculum as well as the creation and implementation of a new international studies major.

Voelker’s academic career began in 1974 as an instructor at Franklin & Marshall, focusing on the work of James Joyce. During the next 20 years, he expanded his teaching interests to include courses in Shakespeare, Renaissance literature, medieval literature, contemporary American fiction, and creative writing. He received an outstanding teaching award in 1984.

Earning his bachelor’s degree in 1969 from Franklin & Marshall, Voelker was elected to Phi Beta Kappa that same year. A Danforth Fellow from 1970 to 1974, he earned a master’s degree in English in 1973 and a Doctor of Philosophy in English in 1975, both from Yale University. He has written numerous articles and a book published in 1989 by the University of Missouri Press titled *Art and the Accidental in Anne Tyler.*
Thousands are expected to visit the University’s Museum of American Political Life when 20 cases of original documents and artifacts from American history arrive on campus in January 2004. Titled “American Originals: Treasures from the National Archives,” the exhibit’s stop at the museum is its last in a three-year, eight-city tour.

“We are honored that the National Archives selected the Museum of American Political Life for ‘American Originals’ and that United Technologies is generously supporting the exhibition in Hartford,” said University of Hartford President Walter Harrison. “We look forward to making this an exciting and meaningful educational experience for students and residents throughout Connecticut and New England.”

Visitors will see firsthand original documents that relate to events both great and small, familiar and unfamiliar, from the history of our nation. Among the documents are the Louisiana Purchase Treaty of 1803, providing for a land purchase of 828,000 square miles for $15 million; pages from John F. Kennedy’s handwritten draft of his 1961 inaugural address; an order to arrest Wyatt Earp for “larceny in the Indian Country”; and a patent application from Thomas Edison for an “Improvement in Electric Lamps.”

The highlight of the exhibition will be a special public display of pages from the original Emancipation Proclamation of 1863 that announced President Lincoln’s intention to free the slaves. Because of their fragility, these pages can be displayed for only four days (dates to be announced), but the remainder of the exhibit will be open to the public from Jan. 30 through May 9.

United Technologies Corporation is the major underwriter of “American Originals.” Other display items that are of special interest in Connecticut include testimony from Bahoo, an Amistad African, to the circuit court in Hartford; and a deposition signed by Harriet Beecher Stowe, author of Uncle Tom’s Cabin, when she sued the publisher of a German-language newspaper for translating and publishing her work without paying royalties.

“American Originals” was created by the National Archives and Records Administration in Washington, D.C., and The Foundation for the National Archives. The exhibition’s contents were drawn from the holdings of the National Archives, which preserves and makes available to the public those records of the U.S. government that have permanent value. Included are both great treasures and the records of minor events. The documents and artifacts in “American Originals” were selected from the large number of items that the archive holds in trust for the American people.

The University of Hartford is one of only eight venues nationwide for the exhibition and the only location in New England where visitors can see “American Originals.”

With a collection of political campaign memorabilia second only to that of the Smithsonian, the Museum of American Political Life is currently closed for repairs and essential modifications in advance of the tour.
The Hartt School has named the Miami String Quartet as its new quartet-in-residence, a position held previously for 21 years by the Emerson String Quartet.

“We couldn’t be more thrilled,” said Malcolm Morrison, dean of The Hartt School and chair of the quartet search committee. “The Miami gave a brilliant and deeply satisfying concert, and the committee’s sentiments have been echoed by both Hartt students and the audience.”

“We were always aware of The Hartt School because of the Emerson,” said Keith Robinson, cellist with the Miami Quartet. “We have visited a number of higher education institutions, but Hartt was alone in its commitment to the community. It is really refreshing. I hope that we can be goodwill ambassadors for Hartt and carry its name wherever we go.”

The new quartet-in-residence will perform five concerts at the University’s Lincoln Theater each year. The fifth concert will feature the winners of a Hartt student competition, who will perform with the quartet. In addition, the Miami will coach Hartt’s graduate quartet and will conduct chamber music coaching and master classes with undergraduate, graduate, and Community Division students.

Although it may befuddle geographers, I’m delighted we’ll be bringing the Miami to Hartford,” said President Walter Harrison. “I was delighted by their concert, and I found them personally engaging and exciting. I’m sure our students and our community will too.”

The decision ends a yearlong process that featured public performances by the finalists for the quartet-in-residence position. Competing with the Miami String Quartet for the position were the Colorado Quartet, the Lark Quartet, and the Miró Quartet. Hartt faculty and students provided input, as did members of the search committee, audiences at the concerts, and organizations that had supported the Emerson throughout the more than two decades of its tenure.

Ronald Borror, director of Hartt’s Instrumental Division and a member of the search committee, called the concert given by the Miami String Quartet one of the most exciting performances he had attended. “It was the perfect climax to a mini-residency that witnessed equally exciting and educational master classes and chamber music coaching. Both faculty and students are anticipating a fruitful relationship between the quartet and the Hartt community.”

The search began when the Emerson String Quartet ended its tenure at The Hartt School in 2002. The quartet’s decision was the result of the group’s demanding worldwide touring schedule, which made it increasingly difficult for them to satisfy the teaching requirements of their agreement with The Hartt School.

The Miami String Quartet—Ivan Chan and Cathy Meng Robinson, violin; Chauncey Patterson, viola; and Keith Robinson, cello—is one of the most respected young quartets in America. The group has performed extensively throughout North, Central, and South America and Europe. An interest in new music has led the quartet to commission and/or premiere works by Maurice Gardner, Bruce Adolphe, Eduardo Diazmunoz, Robert Starer, and David Baker. The group records for the BMG/Conifer label.
A Family Legacy

Calvert and Margaret Thomas, along with their sons, C. Bowie and Doug, have made a $100,000 gift to the University of Hartford Performing Arts Center. In recognition of their generous contribution, the courtyard in the Performing Arts Center will be named in honor of the Thomas family.

This gift preserves the Thomas family’s association with the historic buildings that will house the Performing Arts Center.

In presenting a check to University President Walter Harrison, Calvert Thomas underscored his commitment to the University’s vision for the facility. “Our family is excited to watch a property that launched our business become transformed into a 21st-century arts facility,” he said.

In accepting the gift, President Harrison said, “I am proud that our Performing Arts Center will be located on the site of your Cadillac dealership, and I know that our center will continue the tradition of excellence that your family has established there. I offer Cal and his family my gratitude on behalf of the entire University.”

Founded by Calvert and Margaret Thomas, Thomas Cadillac specializes in the luxury car market. For 26 years the company has served the Greater Hartford community with an emphasis on customer service. Today, the dealership, which is located on Weston Street in Hartford (and now known as Thomas Cadillac Jaguar), is run by C. Bowie Thomas and Doug Thomas.

Transforming a Student Showcase

The student gallery in the Hartford Art School’s Taub Hall will undergo a transformation, thanks to a generous gift from Linda and Donald Silpe.

President Walter Harrison announced the Silpes’ $100,000 gift to the University’s Campaign of Commitment at the annual meeting of the Board of Regents on May 9.

Linda Silpe, who received a Master of Education from the College of Education, Nursing and Health Professions in 1965, is a regent of the University and served on the HAS Board of Trustees from 1986 to 1994.

“My earliest relationship with the Hartford Art School was 50 years ago,” she said, “taking Saturday morning classes on the second floor of the Avery Memorial at the Wadsworth Atheneum, which was then home for the Hartford Art School.”

The Silpes’ gift will be used to renovate Taub Hall and provide HAS students with a professional gallery to showcase their work (see sketch below).

“The new Donald and Linda Silpe Gallery will include a dramatic new entrance, new lighting, and improved acoustics,” said Power Boothe, dean. “The impact of this gift on the Art School, especially our students, and the Greater Hartford community will be felt for years to come.”

The gift, he said, symbolizes the Silpes’ continuing support of the Hartford Art School and their commitment to the education of young artists. Silpe said she hopes that the gift “is an inspiration for other alumni to renew their commitment to the Hartford Art School and the University.”
In the summer of 2004, the University of Hartford plans to put a shovel in the ground to begin phase-one construction of new fields that will change the face of University athletics. By mid-2006, athletes will stream onto new baseball and softball fields and a new, all-purpose track and field—long-awaited facilities worthy of a Division I university.

On April 22, the University took the first step toward achieving this $10 million goal with the kickoff of the leadership phase of Home Field Advantage, the Campaign of Commitment Athletics Project. One hundred guests, including members of the campaign’s leadership, advisory, and steering committees, joined coaches and student athletes for the official launch of the three-year campaign. University President Walter Harrison underscored the key role the athletics project will play in the University’s 10-year Campaign of Commitment, while Director of Athletics Pat Meiser-McKnett detailed plans for construction of the new fields.

Co-chairs of the athletics campaign are Gary LaRocque ’75, assistant general manager of the New York Mets, and Robert Forrester ’66, chairman and CEO of Payne, Forrester & Associates, LLC, who challenged the group to work together to raise one-quarter of the $10 million goal by the fall of 2003. Forrester urged his colleagues: “Provide your advice, your involvement, your contacts, and, when the time is right, your dollars.”

To learn more about ways in which you can participate in the Home Field Advantage campaign, contact Ellie Large, athletics campaign manager, at her e-mail address: large@hartford.edu.

Class of 2003 Leaves Its Signature

The number of graduating students who made $25 gifts to the University through the Senior Signature program has doubled over the past year. About 200 members of the Class of 2003 took part this year, compared to 100 students last year.

The Senior Signature program, which began in 2000, encourages graduating seniors to make gifts to the University of $25 each. Those who contribute have their names engraved on a senior class plaque, which is hung on the outside wall of University Commons. On Wednesday, May 14, many of this year’s participants gathered outside the Commons for the unveiling of the Class of 2003 plaque.

President Walter Harrison spoke to the seniors about the importance of supporting the University throughout their lives. “I hope you will think of all those students who went before you and gave to the University to help you,” Harrison said. “Whether you benefited from a scholarship or another form of financial aid, you too can help others in the future by giving to your alma mater.”

After the unveiling, President Harrison hosted a barbecue at his house for this year’s Senior Signature participants.
The University of Hartford, along with the Hartford Public Schools and the Capitol Region Education Council (CREC), has been awarded a $400,000 planning grant to develop an early-college magnet high school. University officials expect the school to have an enrollment of 400 students when fully operational and to be a Hartford host magnet school, with 70 percent of the students coming from Hartford. Current plans call for the first ninth-grade class to be admitted for the fall of 2004.

To be known as the University High School of Science and Engineering, the school will focus on science, mathematics, engineering, and technology. This grant is part of the “Early College Initiative,” funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the Carnegie Corporation of New York and administered by the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation.

“This school will break new ground in the continuum between high school and college and establish Hartford in the forefront of this effort,” noted University President Walter Harrison. The University High School will provide its students the opportunity to combine four years of high school with up to two years of college credit in science and engineering.

“This early-college high school will enable University faculty and school faculty, University students and high school students, to study and work together, creating a distinctive learning environment,” said Henry. “Students who attend the new high school will be encouraged to prepare for a future in the sciences, engineering, and technology, which are clearly the leading fields of the 21st century.”

CREC Executive Director Bruce E. Douglas said the University of Hartford and Hartford Public Schools should be commended for their leadership and commitment to the elimination of racial, ethnic, and economic isolation in the Greater Hartford region. “This school is the best example of regional cooperation to serve the best interest of children and families of the region,” he said.

In order to prepare students for the new high school, the University, Hartford Public Schools, and CREC will begin a preparation program in science on the University campus on Saturdays, beginning this fall. This program, which will be funded by the grant, will be open to all seventh- and eighth-graders and will feature programs in forensic science, robotics, and water quality. It will be free to all students from any school district.

The University High School of Science and Engineering will take advantage of the University of Hartford’s existing strengths in science and engineering as well as its new initiatives in that area, including the construction of a $32 million Integrated Science, Engineering and Technology complex. This complex will bring all of the University’s science, engineering, and technology disciplines together in a network of new and renovated buildings on the University’s campus.

The new University High School will also build on the success of the partnership that launched the University of Hartford Magnet School, which provides state-of-the-art education to approximately 400 students (in pre-kindergarten through fifth grade) from Hartford and six surrounding towns.

The preliminary proposal calls for the University High School to be built on the east side of the University of Hartford campus, on Mark Twain Drive in Hartford.
Rhythm, Balance, and Style—That's Swingin’!

by Erin R. Mason '00

Trumpet master Wynton Marsalis treated the University community to a day of music, lessons, and humor on March 5 during an afternoon master class and evening performance in Lincoln Theater.

The master class drew a standing room–only crowd to Wilde Auditorium. Dressed in jeans and sneakers, the soft-spoken Marsalis answered questions, shared technical advice, and told personal stories. Of playing music, he said, “Force yourself to pay attention to every detail. It’s a sign of integrity. Playing and integrity go hand in hand.”

Marsalis’s first student performer was Michael Pakulik ’03, a classically trained music education major, who played a simple warm-up scale. Marsalis proclaimed it “perfect,” prompting a collective audience chuckle. He then listened to a jazz septet individually and together, commenting on riffs, rhythm, balance, and style. Members included jazz major Nick Toscano ’04 on drums, Dezron Douglas ’04 on bass, Haneef Nelson ’00 on trumpet, Lumie Spann ’01 on alto sax, Ray McMorrin ’02 on tenor sax, James Burton ’02 on trombone, and Hartt faculty member Chris Casey on piano.

Marsalis kept the beat, offered advice, and picked up his trumpet during the set and played with members of the baseline, exclaiming, “Now, that’s swingin’!”

The septet performed a piece by bassist Douglas, who said, “We were amazed at the level of insight he was bringing to the music.” A true professional, Marsalis showed his skill in teaching by encouraging the musicians, asking them to make changes intuitively, using metaphor to deliver practical technical and stylistic advice, and holding them accountable for missed rests, sharp notes, or shallow breaths.

The master-class audience included Hartt School students, University faculty and staff, and students from West Hartford’s Hall and Conard high schools.

In answer to a question from a high school student, Marsalis offered advice he had received from his father. “If you want to make it out here playing music, don’t have anything to fall back on.” His mother was not pleased with this advice, he said, but it has worked for him.

Later that evening, prior to performing in Lincoln Theater, Marsalis received an honorary Doctor of Music from the University. He and his Lincoln Center Septet played for the benefit of the Northwest Boys and Girls Clubs, part of the University’s MUSIC for a CHANGE series.

Wynton Marsalis (left) jams with bassist Dezron Douglas ’04 (center) and Ray McMorrin ’02 (right) on tenor sax during a master class in Wilde Auditorium.

Students Reap Goldfarb Awards

Lauren Bennett ’05 won a Purchase Award in this spring’s Alexander A. Goldfarb student awards exhibition for her mixed-media drawing titled Handbags at Ten Paces. Probate Judge James Kinsella, trustee of the Alexander A. Goldfarb Memorial Trust, distributed the student awards before a full house of faculty, staff, students, and family members during a reception March 26 at the Joesloff Gallery.

Richard Harden, MFA ’98, a professor of painting and drawing at Manchester Community College, juried the show and had the arduous task of choosing 70 from the 180 pieces submitted.

Mary Melendez ’03, also won a Purchase Award for Untitled, a digital-print collage and laminate. A Juror’s Prize was awarded to Leslie Ahern, a graduate student in painting, for Traverse #2, acrylic and oil on canvas.

Honorable mention went to Mari Skarp ’03 for Bull, made of driftwood, metal, and rubber.

Awards of Merit went to Adam MacHose ’05 for Northern Realm, pencil and acrylic on board, and to Jeremy A. Smith ’05 for a video titled True Story.

The awards are funded by the Alexander A. Goldfarb endowment trust.
Families from Greater Hartford arrived on campus on April 12 for a Saturday filled with fun and discovery. More than 40 events and exhibits greeted them as part of the University’s first-ever Community showcase.

Children flocked to an instrumental “petting zoo,” where they were encouraged to touch, play, and learn about a variety of musical instruments. Visitors sat behind the anchor desk at the University television studio, toured the University of Hartford Magnet School, and got a close look at “Watzilla,” a robot created by the Watkinson School/University of Hartford robotics team.

President Walter Harrison, a baseball scholar, spoke on the history and future of our national pastime. In closing, he handed out peanuts and boxes of Cracker Jack to the audience. The Hartt Steelband, playing calypso and soca music in Suisman Lounge, was a popular stop, as was a performance by student improv comedy group “…stop laughing Mom!”

Plans are already under way for next year’s showcase. “It was great to share just a small sampling of what we have here at the University with our neighbors throughout the area,” said Jonathan Easterbrook ’87, ’90, director of advertising and marketing at the University and the event’s creator. “We were able to welcome many guests who had never set foot on our campus before. With the foundation in place, we look forward to seeing this event grow each year.”

Acoustical Accomplishment

As if the day had not been special enough, Denise M. Miller and her parents received a wonderful surprise at the College of Engineering’s Commencement ceremony on May 18, when it was announced that she had been chosen to receive the Robert Bradford Newman Medal for Merit in Architectural Acoustics.

Miller won the award for her work in constructing an acoustical model of Hartt’s Millard Auditorium. Using a process called auralization, she produced a simulation of the auditorium’s sound from two different audience seats. She compared her simulation of Millard’s sound to recordings she made with a binaural head, which is a dummy head with microphones in its ears.

The highly selective national award, administered by the Acoustical Society of America, is named for Robert B. Newman of BBN (Bolt, Beranek & Newman), one of the original acoustical consulting companies in the United States. BBN became nationally known for its work with the Warren Commission when it was investigating the Kennedy assassination. BBN analyzed tape recordings of the event to determine how many shots were fired and if there could have been more than one gunman.

Not an Emmy, But Close

STN–Channel 2 News, the University’s student-run television broadcast, has received one of the most prestigious honors awarded to college media. The station won first place in the Society of Professional Journalists’ Mark of Excellence awards in the category Best Non-Daily Television Newscast in the Northeast region.

Danielle Freni ’03, the station’s outgoing general manager, who graduated this May, and photographer Tom Nelson ’04 were also honored by the society, receiving a second-place award for general news reporting. Freni said all 50 active staff members were excited by the honors and also pleased to be recognized this year by their peers at the University. The Student Government Association named the station Student Club of the Year for 2003.

The recent awards are not the only indication of STN’s success. STN alumni can be found in broadcasting jobs throughout the country. Further proof of the station’s reputation: Freni was hired by News 12 Connecticut in Norwalk before she graduated.