Mission

Founded in 1881, the University of Connecticut serves as the flagship for higher education and the sole doctoral degree granting public institution in the state. The University serves as a center for research, dedicated to excellence in higher education and fulfillment of its land grant status. It is committed to meeting the educational needs of its undergraduate, graduate, professional and continuing education students and providing the faculty with the means to develop their intellectual capacity through teaching, research and interaction with society. Through the integration of teaching, research and service, the University provides an outstanding educational experience for each student.

The University will serve the state and its citizens in a manner that enhances the social and economic well-being of its communities. It will do so by providing leadership in the pursuit and dissemination of knowledge to all its constituents, recognizing that the continual transmission of knowledge and lifelong learning are essential to Connecticut’s future in a
global context. It will seek to enhance the quality of life and the economic well-being of Connecticut.

**Statutory Responsibilities**

The General Statutes of the State of Connecticut and the Morrill Act of the US Congress have charged the University of Connecticut with the responsibility for the education of Connecticut youth in scientific and classical studies, agriculture and mechanic arts and liberal and practical education. General Statutes have given it "exclusive authority for programs leading to doctoral degrees and post-baccalaureate professional degrees." The University's constitutional mandate, "excellence in higher education," is accomplished in its traditional triad of academic responsibilities: teaching, research and service.

**Public Service**

The University's contribution to Connecticut's intellectual life and economic development included new initiatives and programs and infrastructure support for research efforts. The Center for Science and Technology Commercialization is one example of UConn's commitment to relationships with major economic interests of the state. This initiative to transfer the University's discoveries and new technologies to the private sector involves the entire university, including the Health Center and campuses at Storrs, Avery Point and Stamford.

Two new inpatient services were established at the Health Center's NeuroPsychiatric Institute. The Geriatric Psychiatry services benefit aging individuals with mood disorders, behavioral disturbances associated with dementia, changes in mental activity related to stroke, eating disorders, and other age-related mental health problems. The Psychiatric Medicine services are designed for general medical problems, such as
cancer, diabetes and heart disease that precipitate psychiatric problems; depression resulting from chronic illness; delirium; and medical and psychiatric illnesses resulting from substance abuse and dependency.

The National Institutes of Mental Health (NIMH) awarded a Health Center psychologist $1 million to broaden her research on treatments for gambling addictions. It is the first time the NIMH, a component of the National Institutes of Health, has funded an organized study of treatment options for compulsive gambling.

Connecticut Magazine selected the Health Center's website on disease and wellness information (www.uconnhealth.org) as one of the state's top 50 websites. It was one of only two selected in the category of Health. The Family Planning Program of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology launched a new website dedicated to research and resources about teen pregnancy prevention. About 1,500 Connecticut residents use the International Traveler's Medical Service each year. The service offers up-to-date recommendations concerning the prevention of malaria, diarrheal disease and other travel-related illnesses.

A $2.5 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education provided Health Center researchers in the Division of Child and Family Studies a five-year, national initiative to determine the best ways parents of young children with developmental disabilities can find the care and resources they need.

Researchers in the School of Engineering and at Inframat Corporation developed a new coating for use by the U.S. Navy on ships and submarines that is more durable than coatings used today.

Faculty affiliated with the School of Engineering's Environmental Research Institute, in collaboration with the United Technologies Research Center, developed a new technique for removing dangerous chemical solvents from contaminated soil
at industrial sites. The research was conducted under ERI's Industrial Affiliates program - through which companies partner with ERI scientists to develop and commercialize key technologies - and with additional research contracts funded by UTC. The School of Engineering hosted the 17th annual Connecticut Invention Convention, where student inventors from schools throughout the state presented their creations.

The U.S. Agency for International Development awarded $682,000 to UConn to form a partnership with Technoserve, an international consulting firm based in Norwalk, for improvements to the productivity of small-scale farmers in El Salvador. The five-year project creates farm management centers based on a model developed by UConn agricultural economists. Several UConn programs are involved in assisting the farmers: the Office of International Affairs, Institute of Public Service International, Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, and the Environmental Research Institute.

State and national surveys conducted by the Center for Survey Research and Analysis have provided service in such areas as public attitudes toward America’s criminal justice system. School of Law students offered a Volunteer Income Tax Assistance site in Hartford. The Center for Economic Analysis began studying the impact of the Mashantucket Pequot Tribe and its business enterprises on the Connecticut economy.

Aetna Financial Services provided the School of Business with more than $2.7 million to endow a faculty chair and to establish the Aetna Center for Financial Services. Combined with nearly $1.3 million in state matching funds, the total value will exceed $4 million. The center will conduct research on long-term savings, investment, and income management, have a database for academic and corporate participants, and seek to influence relevant public policy debate.
The School of Dental Medicine expanded its involvement in the Special Olympics to include the winter games and screened more than 300 athletes at the Summer Games in June. Dental students manage the screening program to educate Special Olympians and their families about oral hygiene, to increase the dental profession's awareness of particular oral health issues of people with special needs, and to develop a protocol for meeting the dental needs of the athletes in the future.

In the College of Continuing Studies, non-credit course enrollments in the Community School of the Arts were approximately 2,500 and enrollments in the Center for Economic Education were about 4,000. Both of these programs serve the general public as well as the University community.

**Improvements/Achievements 1999-00**

The University received national recognition for the quality of its programs and accomplishments. The following are national rankings awarded in 1999-00:

- The University was named by U.S. News and World Report as the best public university in New England. Its national ranking was 31st among 147 public doctorate-granting universities.

- The MBA Program in the School of Business was ranked among the nation's best by *Forbes* Magazine for providing the student a good return on investment. *Forbes* evaluated 50 of the nation's top business schools. UConn ranked 15th among the top 25 programs costing the graduate student less than $90,000.

- The MBA Program also was 23rd in national ratings by *Computerworld* on preparation of "technology-savvy executives."

- Neag School of Education's teacher education programs were among the top 25 in the nation, according to *U.S. News and World Report*. The school's elementary teacher education program was ranked 19th and was the only school in New England
in the top 25. The secondary teacher education program was 
ranked 23rd. The only other New England school in the top 25 
was Harvard, ranked 22nd. Only three other Northeast schools 
were in the top 25 - Columbia, Penn State, and University of 
Pennsylvania. The Neag School of Education's overall U.S. 
News ranking was 47th out of 187 graduate education programs 
in the country.

- The School of Law ranked 41st among law schools nationwide, 
  according to U.S. News. It was the only public law school in 
  New England in the top 50 and one of only five schools in the 
  region ranked as a top-tier school.

- In the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, two graduate 
  programs in Communication Sciences were highly rated by U.S. 
  News. Speech/Language Pathology was ranked 21st and Audiology 
  25th among similar programs nationwide.

- The Department of Sociology was named by the American 
  Sociological Association as the 31st most productive 
  department in the country. UConn was the only public 
  university in New England in the top 40. The ranking is based 
  on articles published in the discipline's three most important 
  refereed journals.

- The School of Family Studies was identified as a "leading 
  source of influence in the field of family therapy" in a study 
  of the origin of publications in three leading journals from 
  1980 through 1995. The Marriage and Family Therapy Program 
  was ranked 9th in the nation in the study, published in the 
  Journal of Marital and Family Therapy.

- UConn was the 10th most Disability Friendly campus in the 
  nation, according to We, a disability lifestyle magazine. The 
  magazine noted the School of Education's University Affiliated 
  Program serving persons with disabilities, disability resource 
  office, scholarships, and career counseling as important 
  factors in the ranking.
Sports Illustrated for Women named UConn the 17th best university in the nation for female student-athletes. The ranking involved a variety of factors, including championships won, varsity and intramural opportunities, recreation programs, graduation rates, facilities, financial aid and fan support. UConn was the only public university in New England ranked in the top 20.

John Dempsey Hospital received the highest possible rating - accreditation with commendation - from the Joint Commission on Healthcare Accreditation. The outstanding rating, following a comprehensive review of over 700 performance standards, was awarded to only 12% of the nation's hospitals.

The University attracted a talented and diverse student population as never before. Student applications increased in number, strength, and diversity. More financial aid was made available to students in need, the quality of campus life improved dramatically, and efforts to enhance the rigor of the curriculum were accelerated. The University refocused its energies on the quality of the undergraduate experience with innovative new honors programs, individualized majors, and the first year experience.

The relocation of the Waterbury regional campus to downtown Waterbury was approved with plans to build a new 80,000-square-foot building on East Main Street. In addition to current offerings, the new campus will offer an undergraduate degree program in business. A master of science in technology management and a dual degree program combining the master of business administration and the master of science in accounting are being developed to respond to new market demands in the fields of business and technology.

Six UConn professors were the first to be recognized as Distinguished Professors by the University's Board of Trustees.
Honored for their achievements and exceptional distinction in scholarship, teaching and service were:

- **Stanley Biggs**, professor of accounting, a national KPMG Professor of Accounting (a title granted to a total of 45 accounting faculty members in the country), and a pioneer in the field of behavioral audit processes;
- **Lynn Bloom**, professor of English and UConn's first holder of the Aetna Endowed Chair in Writing;
- **Howard Lasnik**, professor of linguistics, editorial board member of five leading linguistics journals, and Fellow of the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences at Stanford University;
- **Joseph Renzulli**, professor of educational psychology whose Enrichment Triad Model has been cited as the most widely used approach for special programs for the gifted and talented;
- **Bruce Stave**, professor of history, director of the Center for Oral History, and the compiler of oral histories of members of the African National Congress, Holocaust survivors, mill workers, European immigrants, and residents of China; and
- **Michael Turvey**, professor of psychology and recently named a Distinguished Scientist Lecturer by the American Psychological Association.

Research, in areas ranging from cloning in the Transgenic Animal Facility in Storrs to marine sciences at Avery Point to oncology at the Health Center, continued to attract national attention.

UConn joined a select group of business schools who offer students the challenge and experience of investing and managing real dollars. Using $500,000 provided by the University of Connecticut Foundation for the start-up phase, two select groups of UConn finance majors had hands-on experience in security research, valuation of risky assets, asset allocation and portfolio management. The Foundation will gradually add another
$500,000 as the students gain experience managing the investment fund under the supervision of a faculty advisor.

A database of more than 80,000 Africans rescued from slave ships diverted to foreign ports by the British navy has begun to be compiled to improve understanding of the 1700s and 1800s, the Atlantic slave trade, and the African Diaspora. The database is being built at Harvard with the help of a UConn professor of history and African American Studies.

An associate professor in the School of Family Studies received $1 million from the National Institutes of Health to study the impact of migration on the parenting practices and beliefs of immigrant families. The three-year study will focus on Puerto Rican and Euro-American mothers in the United States, and Turkish and German mothers in Germany.

The Accelerated Schools Project, previously based at Stanford University, moved its national headquarters to Storrs to partner with the Neag Center for Gifted Education and Talent Development. A grant from the state of Connecticut enabled the Neag School of Education to establish a Future Teachers Club in East Hartford and Glastonbury to attract middle school students to a career in education.

The University's continued success in translating the promise of UCONN 2000 into reality included the completion of five new buildings, the initiation of seven more new building projects and the major renovation of several existing facilities. The University initiated implementation of a campus-wide voice, video and data communications system vital to curricular needs.

With this year's special revenue bond issuance, the University went to the market independently for the first time, with tremendous success.

In Fall 1999, 22,736 students were enrolled in degree credit programs in the 13 Schools and Colleges at the Storrs Campus, the regional campuses (Avery Point, Hartford, Stamford, Torrington
and Waterbury), the Schools of Law and Social Work in Hartford, and the Schools of Medicine, Dental Medicine, and graduate programs at the Health Center in Farmington. As of May 2000, the University conferred a total of 4,672 bachelor's, master's, doctoral, law, medicine and dental medicine degrees.

Connecticut's elected leaders underscored their support for the University and enthusiasm for the part it plays in the State's life by beginning the process of building a new stadium where UConn can play football at the Division 1-A level appropriate to its size and quality.

The UConn women won their second NCAA women’s basketball title. Student-athletes also won Big East regular season or tournament championships in women's basketball, men's soccer, and field hockey; Big East Northeast Division championship in women's soccer; New England championships in men's and women's track and field; and MAAC tournament championship in ice hockey. Fifteen student-athletes from the University were named All Americans: two in women's basketball, two in women's soccer, two in men's soccer, four in field hockey, one in women's outdoor track and field, and four in men's indoor track and field. Geno Auriemma was voted the consensus national women's basketball coach of the year. Street and Smith's Sports Business Journal named Lew Perkins the national athletic director of the year.

Reducing Waste

The financial management system was restructured to promote greater efficiency, clearer lines of responsibility, and better coordination across the University. The University budget was organized to build the financial base necessary to ensure that reserve levels are sufficient to equip new and expanded dining facilities and residential halls - all part of the effort to accommodate a larger student population in a cost-effective and customer-friendly manner. A new dormitory technology fee for
Storrs students replaced costs previously paid directly by students for telephone, cable and internet services.

The University also revised its internal processes to improve the timing of financial aid offers to students, prioritize to address the finances of our neediest students first, and work toward reduction of student indebtedness upon graduation.

A reorganization of research animal care services was underway to improve efficiency, staffing, general maintenance, minor repairs and consulting services. Research animal care is an important element in quality research, continued federal funding and private sector partnerships.

Financial challenges at the Health Center were addressed effectively through major organizational changes and focusing of resources while maintaining the quality and integrity of the educational, research and clinical programs. The Health Center's Dempsey Hospital was rated the most cost-efficient hospital in the state, according to the Connecticut Office of Health Care Access. The growth in efficiency for Dempsey Hospital was attributed, among other things, to consolidation of departments, elimination of positions through attrition, and better purchasing contract agreements.

In the first four years of the state's investment in UCONN 2000, the University saved more than $4 million in assuming the insurance risk by running an owner-controlled insurance program. Administrative costs for internal project management also were streamlined to total $1.3 million, or one-half of one percent of the total cost of the program in the first four years.

The University successfully made the transition into Year 2000. The University's student systems (SAM, SARS, GATEWAY, and Thesis) were identified by the state to be among the state's "top 50 systems" in terms of the most impact on the public. Restructured and expanded information technology services were
Strategic Planning and Initiatives

The Strategic Plan for the Storrs and Regional Campuses of the University, adopted by the Board of Trustees in 1995, has provided the framework for planning and implementing many strategic initiatives. A variety of initiatives have been derived from eight general strategic goals: (1) provide a challenging and supportive learning environment that fosters achievement and promotes excellence in research, scholarship and artistic creativity; (2) recruit and retain outstanding students, faculty and staff; (3) create a physical environment that reflects the University’s expectation of excellence and encourages interaction among a diverse population; (4) enhance a sense of community; (5) allocate and develop resources on the basis of mission, value and performance; (6) streamline administrative functions; (7) promote the University’s role in fulfilling the needs of the state, its citizens, and its economic institutions; and (8) foster a sense of partnership with the state.

Program assessment, a tool designed to help academic departments and programs assess what they, and their peers, are accomplishing, and to maintain focus on goals and mission, is one of the continuing processes that originated with the University's Strategic Plan. In 1999-00 several academic departments were involved in some phase of the three-semester process – self-study, hosted site visit, and collaborative development of a future plan with the dean and chancellor's office. The process, to be applied to every department in the next few years, provides information for decisions on the allocation and development of resources based on a department's mission, value, and performance.
Key issues of program and policy to be addressed in the future include: laying the groundwork for the post-UCONN 2000 period, including matching grant and construction issues; building on an already strong foundation to create an even more effective communications program; taking essential steps to meet all needs — academic, social, cultural and financial — of an increasingly diverse student population; working to create a vibrant, exciting college town in Storrs; resolving outstanding land use issues; and examining the ways in which we use resources to assure that we are at optimal levels of efficiency.

A challenge for UConn is accommodating the enrollment growth that has occurred over the past few years while continuing the University's progress into the top ranks of public higher education. Planning for meeting the challenge includes: addressing increasing enrollment, ensuring access, enhancing quality, supporting diversity, improving research and development infrastructure, and building the stable financial base necessary to meet growing demands.

The top three priorities in increased expenditures, to ensure that enrollment increases are matched by the requisite high-quality services, are 1) course offerings and coverage, 2) financial aid, and 3) infrastructure and service support to address the additional wear and tear of a larger campus population.

Several initiatives expanded services to the University's Honors Program students. One of the buildings in the new South Campus Complex was reserved for honors students and for the offices of the Honors Program. A peer mentoring program connected freshmen entering the honors program with honors upperclassmen. Summer internship opportunities for honors students also were expanded with the assistance of the Career Services Department.
As part of UCONN 2000, endowment contributions are matched with an equal amount of state dollars. The University met the initial three-year, $20 million matching grant initiative in only 18 months. The program was extended so that endowment contributions could continue to be matched with state funds.

The University of Connecticut Annual Fund enjoyed its best year ever during fiscal year 2000. As of June 30, 27,467 UConn alumni, parents, and friends—up from 16,879 the previous year—made gifts totaling more than $1.86 million, a 42 percent increase in support over fiscal year 1999. The Fund provides support for a wide range of programs, including the University's Career Center, Learning Skills Lab, First Year Experience, and Study Year Abroad. It also provides merit and need-based assistance to students, purchases special library collections and other resources, and supports academic programs in each school and college of the University.

Private financial support for the University increased dramatically, with a rise in annual gifts to $32 million in this fiscal year, a 25% jump from 1998-99. The University of Connecticut Foundation's assets reached $250 million. The range of corporate collaborations expanded this year to include important partnerships with UTC, SNET, Northeast Utilities, Aetna and others. An active presence in Washington helped bring federal support for the new Agriculture-Biotechnology facility and a range of research programs.

Diversity Enhancement

The University engages in a variety of activities and efforts to promote and support a diverse and pluralistic environment for students and employees, including: Asian American Heritage Month, Black History Month, Latino History Month, Women’s History Month, Women in the Arts Program, Multicultural Awareness Week, and lecture series sponsored by ethnic studies institutes. The University makes significant investments in cultural centers and institutes to ensure that UConn is both a more interesting and a more welcoming place. Services and programs are offered by: the Institute for African American Studies, the H. Fred Simons African American Cultural Center, the Asian American Studies Institute, the Asian American Cultural Center, the Institute for Puerto Rican and Latino Studies, the Puerto Rican/Latin American Cultural Center, the Women’s Studies Program, the Women’s Center, the Center for Students with Disabilities, and the Rainbow Center. The University has maintained a high ranking among large State agencies in annual expenditures and total expenditures to women and minority-owned Connecticut small businesses.

The University hosted an international Comparative Human Rights Conference featuring the children of civil rights leaders in the United States and South Africa. Collaboration with the African National Congress continued in an oral history project to help document the lives and political roles of more than 200 anti-apartheid leaders in South Africa.

Minority undergraduate student enrollment at all campuses was 16 percent; graduate and professional minority enrollment was 12 percent. The University’s Fall 1999 entering freshman class at all campuses increased 7.4% in minority students from Fall 1998. Ninety-one countries were represented among the international students, who comprised 14 percent of the graduate and professional students. The July 1998 work force for Storrs
and the Regional Campuses (as reported in the University’s Affirmative Action Plan) included 14% minority faculty and staff. At the Health Center, the Fall 1998 work force included 15% minority faculty and staff.

Implementation of the President’s ADA Task Force recommendations continued with an institutional academic self-evaluation to review programmatic access and University standards for new construction, major renovations, and deferred maintenance projects. The University’s Affirmative Action Plan was approved by the state Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities for the 15th consecutive time. With these and many other programs and initiatives, the University continues to promote and enhance its diversity.