TAKING CHARGE
Nurses boost skills to meet demand
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Perseverance pays
I read with interest your article in the last issue titled “Real World.” My son, Kevin Doherty graduated from QU in May 2010 with a finance degree. He was on the dean’s list from his sophomore year on. I just want to share with you Kevin’s senior year experience, when he was a full-time student with two part-time jobs and a lot of stress. He started interviewing and networking for potential job interviews in early September of 2009. His perseverance surprised and scared me at times! He was so determined to land a position in a finance-related firm in the middle of the financial meltdown.

Kevin interviewed with Bloomberg, Siemens and countless other well-known firms. It was rejection after rejection. He was hopeful when he landed an interview with IBM and was able to progress to the final round. On Friday, Feb. 5, 2010, he received a call, and the news was not good. “We regret to inform you that we have chosen the other candidate because he matched our criteria best”—or something to that effect. Kevin called home that night and he was hopeless, scared and full of self-doubt. This is a straight-A student who worked diligently and gave up a lot in order to complete four years at QU with his grades—and here he was unemployable.

The despair in his voice was heartbreaking.

The following day, a Saturday, instead of taking a break as we advised him to do, he emailed a contact at Deloitte and Touche and asked if there were any opportunities, including unpaid internships. The answer was “not right now.” Well, he kept in touch with that contact as well as many new ones. In April, he received a call from Deloitte and Touche—they offered him a job!

I think young men and women who are experiencing this work search have to know that it can be painful, difficult and never-ending at times, but they need to know that eventually it will be rewarded for their hard work. Kevin gave notice in July at Deloitte—they were very sad to see him go and offered him a raise. He was torn, but clear about what he wanted. He accepted a position at Siemens and began his new job July 25. Quinnipiac should be proud to have partnered in educating and transforming Kevin into an accomplished young man.—Venus Doherty, Brewster, N.Y.

Flash forward!
It wasn’t too long ago that I sat down for an interview with Quinnipiac Magazine about my hopes for the future (“Real World,” Winter 2011). Who would have thought the future would come so fast? Since then I have accepted a job at Yale-New Haven Hospital as a nurse in the infectious disease unit and am preparing to take the NCLEX (nursing boards) very soon. It’s a very nerve-wracking time, but so exciting, too!

Stepping away from Quinnipiac after graduation has made me realize how well prepared I am. From the countless resources and opportunities (not just academic) to the professors who motivated and encouraged me the entire time (Professor Lisa O’Connor in particular), I feel incredibly blessed. We Quinnipiac students have it pretty good! You know you have a truly rewarding college experience when you continue to reap the benefits after walking across that stage in your cap and gown.

So to all my fellow Bobcats, take advantage of every second because sadly, you won’t be there forever. As for me, onto the next adventure.—Jessica Langton ’11

We welcome your letters.
Email janet.waldman@quinnipiac.edu
Seniors step up

In between exams, social events and Commencement, the senior class raised more than $6,000 for the Class of 2011 Endowed Scholarship, and money is still coming in. The Senior Class Gift Committee asked each senior to contribute $20.11 (corresponding with their class year) to ensure that future generations of students experience the same educational opportunities they did. The University will match the final amount raised, and the scholarship will be awarded yearly to a student with financial need.

On April 30, President John L. Lahey treated all contributors to a party at the Pat Abbate ’58 Alumni House & Gardens co-hosted by the Development and Alumni Affairs and Residential Life offices. They enjoyed lawn games, a Wine 101 talk, and were encouraged to remain connected to the University.

From left: Dina Celeste, Jessica Levy, Lauren Caselli, Samantha Campbell, Sarah McCarthy and Amanda Pugliese, co-coordinator of the senior class gift committee.
Fulbright grant

Juan Garbalosa, clinical associate professor of physical therapy, spent six weeks this past summer doing research at the Hyogo University of Health Sciences, near Kobe, Japan, using a Fulbright Specialist Program grant. Garbalosa shared his expertise in the area of biomechanics with Hyogo’s physical therapy department. He also lectured on biomechanics and the physical therapy management of persons with musculoskeletal dysfunction. He was accompanied by senior Robert Roller, an athletic training/physical therapy major.

Friedman will discuss book

Pulitzer Prize-winning New York Times columnist Thomas Friedman will visit campus at 7 p.m. on Sept. 14 to discuss his new book, “That Used to Be Us: How America Fell Behind in the World We Invented and How We Can Come Back.” The event, in the Recreation Center on the Mount Carmel Campus, is free and open to the public.

Friedman will talk about what he believes are the major challenges facing the United States, the reason the country is not addressing those challenges effectively, and the policies America needs to adopt to ensure prosperity at home and strength abroad in the 21st century.

Lee laces talk with humor

Acclaimed filmmaker Spike Lee shared his views on controversial issues—from his opinion of Kanye West to his criticism of the prison system—with the same honest, humorous and gritty style he infuses into his films.

“I’m an instigator,” said Lee, who delivered the Black History Month lecture in February to an audience of 1,500. “An instigator is someone who brings up issues that aren’t talked about.”

In his speech, Lee also described his path into filmmaking, which began in the summer of 1977. With a Super 8 camera, he captured New Yorkers’ reactions to the serial killer Son of Sam, the power blackout and its aftermath, as well as the street parties in the desegregated neighborhoods of a financially strapped New York City.

He cobbled together his first of many films, which included “Malcolm X,” “Do the Right Thing” and his 2006 documentary, “When the Levees Broke.”

He expressed concern for young people who try to emulate a “gangster” lifestyle and criticize peers who want to get an education. “For me, it’s genocide when you equate intelligence for acting white,” said Lee, who teaches at New York University.

He touted the value of education and advised budding directors to write every day, noting that most first-time filmmakers both write and direct early works. He encouraged students to do what they love and not to succumb to pressure to enter a field just for the pay. He bluntly described the challenges of breaking into competitive career fields, such as filmmaking.

Lee engaged the students in the audience, some of whom had taken a QU course about his films. Several asked what it was like to work with celebrities, such as Michael Jackson and Denzel Washington, both of whom he praised for their professionalism and creative talents.

Others probed Lee, a New York Knicks fan, for his thoughts on basketball, which he often includes in his films.
Taste of Hollywood

Emmy Award-winning writer and producer Alan Zweibel led a summer workshop on situation comedies in late July for the School of Communications. He taught participants how to write, rehearse, shoot and edit an original, professionally produced comedy.

Zweibel, one of the original writers of NBC’s “Saturday Night Live,” also co-created the innovative series, “It’s Garry Shandling’s Show,” has written for numerous television programs including “Monk,” and served as consulting producer on “Curb Your Enthusiasm.”

Renown film producer and director Scott Rosenfelt will share his skills with students this fall. Rosenfelt, whose blockbuster movies have garnered both critical and commercial acclaim, will serve as a professional-in-residence in the School of Communications, mentoring film, video and interactive media students during the 2011–12 academic year.

His most prominent films include “Home Alone,” the highest-grossing live action comedy of all time; “Mystic Pizza,” “Smoke Signals” and “Extremities.”

Rosenfelt will review and critique student projects, present lectures, design and implement a weekend producer’s workshop, and help expand student internship opportunities in Los Angeles and New York.

AIDS pioneer discusses pandemic

In April, Dr. David Ho visited campus to discuss the battle to prevent the spread of the AIDS pandemic. Time magazine named Ho “Man of the Year” in 1996 after he devised a cocktail of protease inhibitors and other antiviral drugs that extended the life of HIV-positive patients. Now, he is researching a vaccine. Ho discussed the history of the HIV virus and AIDS, and his work in China to prevent the spread of HIV. Today, 35 million people live with the infection globally, and 2.5 million cases are added each year. “It’s disappointing to me that the AIDS epidemic has been the silent tsunami that is too often ignored by national leaders,” he said.

School of Communications names Kamlet dean

Lee Kamlet, an Emmy Award-winning producer and former head writer for ABC’s “World News” became dean of the School of Communications in April.

“Lee brings a combination of leadership qualities, industry experience and contacts that I am confident will benefit the students, faculty and staff of the School of Communications,” said Mark Thompson, senior vice president for academic and student affairs.

“This is a tremendous opportunity to be with students and faculty who have great vision about the future of communications,” Kamlet said. “I hope to share the energy and excitement with students that has carried me through a 35-year career in broadcast journalism.”

Kamlet has extensive broadcast journalism experience at the network level, having served as head writer for ABC News’ “World News with Diane Sawyer” and previously “World News with Charles Gibson.” Before that, he was a producer for “Dateline NBC,” ABC News’ “Primetime Live” and various ABC News specials.


Kamlet holds a bachelor’s degree in political science from Colorado State University, where he was named the College of Liberal Arts’ Distinguished Alumnus in 2008.
2012 G.A.M.E. in NYC

Jobs and the economy were the hot topics tackled by the financial giants who gathered at the TD Bank Sports Center in March for the inaugural Global Asset Management Education Forum, a three-day conference for students and faculty from many universities and Quinnipiac alumni.

Next year’s G.A.M.E. Forum will take place March 29–31 at the Sheraton New York Hotel and Towers in Manhattan. Finance Professor David Sauer, managing director and program chair for G.A.M.E., said having the forum in the world’s leading financial center is not only appropriate, but will raise QU’s visibility and allow for greater participation for tri-state alumni as well as students and faculty around the world.

Speakers lined up for 2012 include: Abby Joseph Cohen, president of the Global Markets Institute at Goldman Sachs; Bob Froehlich, chief investment strategist at The Hartford; Louis Navellier, chairman, CEO and CIO of Navellier & Associates; John Silvia, chief economist of Wells Fargo Securities; and Lawrence Yun, chief economist at the National Association of REALTORS.

Silvia participated in a panel about the economy at this year’s forum. He and his peers think many of the jobs lost during the recession are not coming back and suggested workers move on to seek the training or education they need to transition into other careers. Silvia was joined on that panel by Diane Swonk, chief economist at Mesirow Financial; Paul Bishop of the National Association of REALTORS; and moderator Jeffrey Kleintop, LPL Financial’s chief market strategist. They were among 14 financial industry leaders to interact with students of experts in one place at one time,” Sauer said.

Anthony Salerno ’97, a financial adviser, said he enjoyed the panelists’ insights. “It’s great seeing them live, where they had the chance to make a more in-depth presentation.”

Jessica Warden, a senior finance major from the University of Colorado, said she learned a lot about the overall economic picture and especially the housing market.

Other keynote speakers included Joseph Battipaglia, market strategist at Stifel Nicolaus; Richard Bernstein, CEO, Bernstein Advisors, LLC; Philip Guziec, editor of Morningstar OptionInvestor; Tobias Levkovitch, chief U.S. equity strategist at Citi Investment Research; Ronald H. Muhlenkamp, CFA, founder and president of Muhlenkamp & Co.; and Navellier.

In 2012, up to seven continuing education credits will be offered for CFAs and CFPs. To check for updates on next year’s forum, visit game.quinnipiac.edu. If interested in participating in the forum, email david.sauer@quinnipiac.edu.

PRESIDENTIAL MEETING
Quinnipiac President John L. Lahey was presented with the Irish American of the Year Award by Irish America Magazine in March. At the event, former President Bill Clinton congratulated Lahey, who then presented Clinton with a copy of the Quinnipiac University Press book, “Celebrating 250 Years of the New York City St. Patrick’s Day Parade.” Lahey was honored for his work in pioneering collegiate study of Ireland’s Great Hunger and his remarkable commitment to promoting Irish-American heritage. He has been involved with the NYC parade for more than 30 years, serves as its vice chairman and was grand marshal in 1997.

SCHOOLS SHINE
The School of Business recently was named one of Bloomberg Businessweek’s “Best Undergraduate Business Schools of 2011.” This marks the first year the School of Business has been included on the prestigious list. Quinnipiac was ranked 91 out of 113 schools. In addition, the physician assistant program in the School of Health Sciences was ranked the 11th best program in the country, according to U.S. News & World Report.

POLLING IN VIRGINIA
Virginia will join Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Florida, Ohio and Pennsylvania as states in which Quinnipiac polls regularly on topics of interest to voters. In addition to those seven states, Quinnipiac also polls New York City and the nation on a regular basis.

Virginia, a solidly Republican state on the presidential level for almost half a century, is becoming a key swing state. President Obama carried it in 2008.
Fred Friendly Award presented to ‘FRONTLINE’ producer

David Fanning, executive producer of “FRONTLINE,” is pushing to find a new way to fund public television so it can pursue its mission of investigative journalism. It’s the type of work to which Fanning has dedicated his life and one reason he received the 18th annual Fred Friendly First Amendment Award from Quinnipiac’s School of Communications in June at the Metropolitan Club in New York City. The award is named for the late broadcast journalist who had a lifelong commitment to freedom of speech.

“FRONTLINE is an excellent broadcast, and David has been the leader of it and a good shepherd for it,” said Charles Gibson, former anchor for ABC’s “World News with Charles Gibson” and 2008 Fred Friendly Award recipient. He was among the approximately 100 journalism colleagues and friends who attended.

In his acceptance speech, Fanning talked about creating a public journalism fund—supported by foundations, individuals, major donors and public money—that would alleviate the pressure to make money, which he says influences the content of reporting. He also said it was time for public television to reinvent itself and bring in “a new generation of young reporters used to the daily demands, the drumbeat of reporting in the digital world.”

Richard Hanley, assistant professor and director of the graduate journalism program, said the program’s “influential documentaries provide factual information that’s visually stimulating and vital for our democracy.”

Yet Fanning, a native of South Africa, grew up in a country without freedom of expression and without television. Still, he made his first documentaries about the challenges his country endured regarding race and religion. He eventually joined PBS affiliate WGBH in Boston and, with Fred Friendly’s help, secured funding to start the documentary series “WORLD,” which later became “FRONTLINE.”

High Point Solutions sponsors ice arena

High Point Solutions of Sparta, N.J., has made a $1 million commitment to sponsor the University’s ice hockey arena at the TD Bank Sports Center for the next five seasons. “Helping a thriving university like Quinnipiac continue its unparalleled ascent, while linking our name to such a state-of-the-art ice hockey facility, is truly a win-win for both of our organizations,” said Tom Mendiburu. He and his brother, Mike, founded the IT services and solutions company in 1996.

Author Daniel Pink lectured in March on the importance of creativity to a successful career in his talk, “Motivating Creatives.”

Pink argues that analytical skills alone are not enough for career advancement. Jobs that require just those skills are often the first to be automated or sent overseas.

“What matters most are the abilities you can’t outsource,” Pink said. He emphasized that companies often need people who can think outside the box to solve problems.

“Give the world something it’s missing. That’s what artists do,” he said.

He also emphasized that people are motivated less by money than by having autonomy, purpose in a position, and the opportunity to master skills in a job.

Pink is the author of four books about changing the world of work, including The New York Times bestsellers, “A Whole New Mind: Why Right-Brainers will Rule the Future” and “Drive: The Surprising Truth about What Motivates Us.”
Three finance students won three of the top spots recently at the prestigious 2011 CME Group Commodity Trading Challenge in New York City. The annual competition features students from colleges and universities across the country competing in a fast-paced electronic and open outcry trading competition. This year more than 100 students from 58 schools competed at the New York Mercantile Exchange.

The winning students were juniors Christopher Gambella, who took first place and won $1,000; Francesco Compagnino, who took second place and won $750; and Kyle Lewis, who placed sixth and won $100. Eric Belgard '11 and senior Egidio Carlino also competed. Gambella, the overall winner, also was offered a summer internship on the floor of the NYMEX.

The trading challenge team, from left: Eric Belgard '11; adviser Thomas Coe, associate professor of finance; Francesco Compagnino '12; Christopher Gambella '12; Kyle Lewis '11 and Egidio Carlino '12, in front.

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COMMUNITY SERVICE

Alumni work with students at Big Event

“The Big Event was not only a community service event, but also a true symbol of Quinnipiac’s mission. The event really brought to life the ideas of community, leadership, tradition and pride.”

—EMILY SARNOFF ’12

The Big Event has become a really big deal at Quinnipiac. More than 1,200 members of the University community spent a Saturday in April volunteering in Greater New Haven as part of the nationwide day of service. This is the second year Quinnipiac has participated in the event when colleges and universities send teams out to volunteer in the community.

“The Big Event is a wonderful opportunity for the Quinnipiac community to grow closer and to improve surrounding communities all at the same time,” said Emily Sarnoff ’12, one of the students who organized it.

At Quinnipiac, teams of 10 to 30 student volunteers traveled to nonprofit organizations in Branford, Cheshire, East Haven, Hamden, Killingworth, Meriden, Milford, New Haven, North Haven, Oxford, Shelton, West Haven and Woodbridge to perform three hours of community service. This year, alumni also participated in the event, volunteering alongside students and at other sites across the Northeast.

“I have endless reasons to be proud of being a Bobcat, and The Big Event is definitely on the top of the list,” Sarnoff said. “We are so excited for next year and cannot wait for The Big Event 2012.”

FILM GETS EMMY NOD

“No Barriers Too High,” a documentary about retired engineer and Quinnipiac trustee Marcus McCraven’s participation on the team that worked on the top-secret hydrogen bomb project in the 1940s and 1950s, was nominated for a regional Emmy award. Journalist-in-residence Tim Malloy produced the film, which aired twice on WTNH, News 8 this spring. The film also chronicles McCraven’s success in overcoming racial discrimination.

At the Boston/New England Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences Emmy Awards, from left: Tim Malloy, trustees Marcus McCraven and Carlton Highsmith, Leta Highsmith, and Don Weinbach, vice president for Development and Alumni Affairs.
Alumni returned to Quinnipiac by the hundreds June 24–26 for Reunion 2011. They enjoyed numerous events including a golf outing, the Taste of Hamden food fest, a party at the Bobcat Den that continued inside the Larson Residence Hall, and a dinner dance. President John L. Lahey welcomed members of the Class of ’61 as the newest Golden Bobcats alumni who graduated at least 50 years ago.

1. Outside the Rocky Top Student Center on the York Hill Campus, from left: Tina (Rapuano) Giuliano ’91, Ellen (Foisie) Robinson ’91, Cindy (Skiff) Demma ’91, Boomer the Bobcat, Karen (Scheu) Bush ’91, Elaine Hanifan ’91 and Angela DePino ’91.

2. Socializing on the quad are Jennifer Alexander ’06, MPT ’08; Crystal DeBiaso ’06, DPT ’09; Jennifer Berlin ’06, MPT ’08; Jennifer Rurak ’06; Heather Yankus ’06; and Lisa Ryan ’06.

3. Pat McGrath ’70 and Tina McGrath, MHS ’89 at the dinner dance in the Rocky Top Student Center.

4. At the Woodbridge Country Club, from left: Joe Dunsmore ’71, Don Langella ’68 and Bill DeMayo ’72.


6. Paula (Rembac) Miller ’96, right, with Sean Dickerson ’96, Maniphon (Souphayana) Dickerson ’96, and their daughters, and Joanne (Granville) Rafferty ’96 and her son.

7. From left, Colleen Trujillo ’81, Pete Torgerson ’81 and Katharine (Lydecker) Rockstroh ’82.
Record-breaking basketball forward Justin Rutty ’11 and freshman ice hockey forward Kelly Babstock were named athletes of the year in April.

The honor is the second in as many years for Rutty, who averaged 14.6 points and a league-best 9.5 rebounds per game. He posted 11 double-doubles—second in the Northeast Conference—and led the league with 4.04 offensive rebounds per game. He also became the NEC’s all-time leading rebounder with 1,025 and passed the 1,500-point mark for his career as well. The Student Government Association presented Rutty with the Edwin L. Steck Award, given annually to an athlete who demonstrates outstanding athletic abilities with a sense of leadership and sportsmanship.

Babstock had the most productive season in women’s ice hockey program history, breaking the single-season goals, assists and points records. She finished with 30 goals and 29 assists for 59 points, ranking first on the team, as well as first among all ECAC Hockey skaters, in all three categories. Her tremendous performance earned her the titles of both ECAC Hockey Rookie and Player of the Year.

Shooting stars honored with award

Justin Rutty ’11 became the NEC’s all-time leading rebounder. Kelly Babstock had an impressive freshman year.
Marissa Caroleo, a senior this fall, was selected as conference player of the year.
Grand Finale

Women’s lacrosse: It ain’t over till it’s over

By John Pettit

The Quinnipiac University women’s lacrosse team is proof positive that it is not how you start, but how you finish. A season that began with three consecutive losses concluded with a Northeast Conference Tournament Championship as well as an NCAA Division I Play-In Game—both program firsts for the Bobcats. Call it lacrosse stick-to-itiveness.

“We needed to regroup and focus on executing our game plan, and we did just that,” junior midfielder Marissa Caroleo said. Quinnipiac opened its season with non-conference losses to Fairfield, Connecticut and Brown. “Our philosophy is that we want to play a very challenging non-conference schedule to prepare us for conference games,” explained head coach Danie Caro.

Sometimes, adversity makes you stronger. It did for us, being able to weather that early storm,” Caro said.

It was difficult coming back from the injury,” Caro said. “I am so happy that it is in my past. This injury made me appreciate how lucky I am to be given the opportunity to play.”

The Bobcats responded by winning 11 of their next 12 games, including an 8–1 league record, to capture the Northeast Conference regular-season title.

“This was the best team I’ve had, not in terms of talent but the way the team related to each other and worked together,” Caro said.

The Bobcats earned the top seed in the NEC Tournament, defeating Sacred Heart and Mount St. Mary’s to capture their first league championship. Junior midfielder Devon Gibney was named tournament Most Valuable Player. The team went on to meet Navy in the Bobcats’ first-ever NCAA Play-In Game on May 7 in Annapolis, Md. Navy prevailed, 20–5. While the NCAA defeat was disappointing, the Bobcats finished 13–5 overall and raised the bar for the future.

“Ever since I’ve been here, our goal has been to win the NEC and get the opportunity to compete beyond the conference tournament,” said Caro, who just completed her sixth season. “It was a great experience for us.”

Several players garnered postseason accolades. Caroleo, Gibney and senior defender Kaitlyn Kelly all earned first team All-NEC honors. Caroleo was the conference player of the year.

Senior midfielder Lauren Matuszczak, senior attacker Christine Sinnegan and junior goalie Noelle Martello earned spots on the second team.

Like the Bobcats, Caroleo had to overcome adversity. A promising sophomore season was cut short after she tore her anterior cruciate ligament. “We were not sure how she was going to come back from surgery,” Caro admitted. “She came back better than she left.”

Caroleo finished with a team-high 43 goals, which ranked 18th in the nation.

“It was difficult coming back from the injury,” Caro said. “I am so happy that it is in my past. This injury made me appreciate how lucky I am to be given the opportunity to play.”

Overall, it was a great spring for Quinnipiac lacrosse. The men’s team advanced to the inaugural NEC Championship Game, losing to Mount St. Mary’s 14–9 on May 8 in Emmitsburg, Md.

“The weekend of the men’s NEC Tournament at Mount St. Mary’s and the women’s NCAA Tournament at Navy was very special,” said Jack McDonald, Quinnipiac athletic director. “I could not have been more pleased to see the women attend the men’s (semifinal) game on Friday, and the men go to the women’s game at Navy. It was a lifelong memory for me.”

The Bobcats finished 13–5 overall and raised the bar for the future.
Photos, clockwise: Students visited Egypt as part of the “Global Community” course; ASI group met the Dalai Lama at World Summit of Nobel Peace Prize Laureates in Japan; communications students made documentaries in South Africa; and nursing students volunteered in a Nicaraguan hospital.
Libya natives and graduate students Fauzi Melad and his wife, Sara Alghoul, along with their daughter, Mawadda, 3, lived in University housing this summer while they awaited news of their scholarship funds.
In February, when Libyans took to the streets in civil protest and demanded the resignation of Muammar el-Qaddafi, Fauzi Melad and his wife, Sara Alghoul, were elated. The couple, currently in the master of health science in biomedical sciences program at Quinnipiac, had come of age under Qaddafi’s oppressive regime. The revolution sparked hope that the wheels of change were beginning to spin, but the couple’s excitement was tempered by concern for their families and their country’s future. With Qaddafi still refusing to relinquish control, the outcome of this political tug-of-war will determine whether they lose their scholarships to study in the U.S.; their ability to return home; and, given their open criticism of Qaddafi at protests in the U.S., their safety.

The political protests of late have shaken governments and toppled dictators in North Africa and the Middle East, from Tunisia to Yemen, and caused tremors felt half a world away. To better understand these political movements and their rippling effects on different regions of the world, Quinnipiac faculty will explore the recent uprisings in a series of interdisciplinary discussions. The title of this year’s academic theme is, “You Say You Want a Revolution.”

A revolution could put a country on a path that will lead to desperately needed change. However, instability during the transition of power may leave foreigners living in the country and nationalists living temporarily abroad stranded in a desert of uncertainty. Some QU students and alumni have experienced just that.

Rex Wong, MPT ’96, had been working for nine months in Cairo, Egypt, when the protests began there in January. A director of hospital strengthening for the Global Institute at Yale University, Wong was providing expertise to improve operations and management in the country’s public and private hospitals.

He supported the people’s movement. At the time, he didn’t realize that it would eventually end his work in Egypt. A few days before President Hasni Mubarak resigned on Feb. 11, the U.S. Embassy ordered Wong to leave. Despite plans to live in the country for up to four years and a desire to stay, he left unsure of when—or if—he could return.

Far from home

Melad and Alghoul, who have a 3-year-old daughter, Mawadda, are also unsure of when they will return home and what will transpire while they are away.

“We are happy because this is change for Libya,” said Melad. With a heavy sigh, he adds, “but we are worried about our families. Sometimes you feel as if you are waiting to hear bad news from Libya.”
Since the protests began, they can’t always reach family members by phone, and when they do, family members are cautious about what they say.

“When we call, they say everything is good,” Alghoul says. “They cannot say the truth. We are all very scared of the Qaddafi regime.”

Qaddafi has strong security forces, which Melad believes are filled with missionary fighters from other countries. Unlike the police in Egypt, these forces don’t have connections to the community. Such connections helped the Egyptian people remove President Hasni Mubarak from power.

Qaddafi also has kept tight control over his people through fear (Melad knows of people who remain missing) and by controlling all media and the Internet. The social media buzz that began protests in other countries could not have taken place in Libya, Melad says. He is an owner of a company that provides pharmaceuticals for livestock, which is being run by his partners. Before arriving in the U.S., Alghoul was a university administrator.

Alghoul was one of the first recipients of Libya’s prestigious national scholarships for study abroad. For 18 months, she studied English in which is being run by his partners. Before arriving in the U.S., Alghoul was a university administrator.

By late June, the scholarship money was released to Libyan students, but they now must apply for extensions that were previously automatically granted. Melad and Alghoul will lose funding in August, even though they won’t finish their program until 2012. They are unsure if they will receive scholarship extensions. More pressing worries remained.

“If this regime does not change, we will be in danger,” Melad explains. Many of the Libyan students in the U.S. have participated in protests. Melad has been to demonstrations in New York City, Boston and Washington, D.C., trying to raise awareness about the plight of Libyan people and encourage a U.S. intervention. He is certain there are Qaddafi sympathizers among the students who will inform officials of their actions. For now, Qaddafi is busy fending off the opposition. If he remains in power, Melad fears the students or their families at home could face arrests—or worse.

“We value the freedom you have in the U.S. We wish our country could have what you have here,” he says. When asked if he plans to go home at the end of his program, the stocky man with the salt-and-pepper beard replies in a soft voice, “If we can.”

Revolution’s aftermath

Rex Wong wasted no time returning to Egypt after dust from the revolution settled. He spent only two weeks in the U.S., during which time he visited Quinnipiac to speak to students about his work.

Wong returned to Egypt only to find a government stalled. He saw signs of hope: groups of young people sweeping the streets, painting walls and clearing the debris left from the protests and celebrations. Wong had heard his Egyptian friends and neighbors complain often about the government and their distrust of Mubarak. They were outraged by the corruption, the mismanagement of the country and the skyrocketing cost of living. Still, the movement that had been simmering for decades came as a surprise to many.

“They never thought a revolution would come,” says Wong, who lived in an apartment only a few blocks from Tahrir Square. “I have never seen a country so united. People were doing something they wanted to do for a long time.”

Unfortunately, the peaceful demonstrations quickly escalated into episodes of violence. “There were a lot of people who were scared. In a way, the district became very chaotic,” says Wong. He remembers residents making an effort to keep order. At night men clutching iron bars stood outside homes and businesses to prevent the rowdy demonstrators and Mubarak supporters from damaging property.

“The mood changed over time, but I didn’t feel like I was in any danger,” says Wong. He admits it wouldn’t have been the same for a tourist. He had become part of the community, and his work at the hospitals had begun to flourish.

Wong had spent months in Cairo’s hospitals training local health care providers and managers and partnering with area universities to create curriculum for addition instruction. Often, he is working in countries with limited resources, such as Ethiopia. The rural hospital there had no running water or indoor plumbing. Other areas have money, but have limited expertise in hospital management. Wong also has worked in Trinidad and Tobago, Australia, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, South Africa and India. In addition to his master’s degree from QU, he received a doctorate in physical therapy from Massachusetts General Hospital and a master’s in public health and a certificate in international health care management from Yale University. He previously taught as an adjunct at Quinnipiac.

When Wong and his team first arrived in Cairo, public hospitals had long waiting times (up to 14 hours) and minimal organization. In the past, he saw how administrative inefficiencies can affect medical response.

By working with hospital staff and administrators, the team reduced patient waiting time by 33 percent, decreased crowding by 45 percent and trimmed administrative time spent on redundant work by nearly 80 percent. Wong had plans to meet with the minister of health to expand the program.

When he returned, that administrator had been replaced, and over a short period of time, three more people filled the position. The temporary government has made few decisions. With a fragile economy
weakened by a drop in tourism, people were not going to the hospital. “It will take a while to recover,” says Wong, who noted that stability would likely come after the formal elections. Wong left and is now working in Tanzania. He is confident the work he started will continue. He plans to return.

Before the Egyptian uprising, Wong had often said, “Making changes in a country with thousands of years of deep-rooted culture and history may not be easy, but we are trying—one small step at a time.”

Small movements

Some uprisings don’t result in major changes in a country, but they begin small steps in improving conditions, and some lay the foundation for future movements. Craig Castagna ’04 experienced the power of protest while living in Mongolia during the short-lived but deadly protests of 2008.

The Mongolian uprising was minimally covered in the media, but Castagna remembers it well. He had already been in the country three years: two years in the Peace Corps teaching and his third year working for the Educational Advising and Resource Center, a non-governmental organization. In addition to teaching English, he ran a life skills club and created and led a seminar on combating the growing problem of human trafficking and preventing the spread of HIV.

Just before sunset on July 1, Castagna recalled the angry crowd that gathered at the capital, Ulaanbaatar, where he lived. The gathering was sparked by suspicions that a recent election was rigged to favor the ruling party. Government corruption was rampant and at stake was control of the economically struggling country’s rich mines of gold, copper and coal.

“As the crowd grew in size and overwhelmed the police, the protest turned violent and hundreds stormed the headquarters of the ruling party, essentially looting and burning it to a shell,” he says.

“I could smell the smoke from my living room,” he says. “When I turned on my TV, I saw protesters being beaten by police.” Later, the government took control of the stations.

Castagna cautiously ventured into the streets. “I saw people walking away from the center of the protest with injuries—men without shirts stumbling around,” he says. “There was really a strange feeling in the air. This was an unprecedented event.”

He stayed far enough away to avoid getting swept up by police who arrested more than 800 protesters. The riot left five dead and more than 300 injured. The protests didn’t change the election; however, it planted a seed for future generations to strive for a better government, Castagna says. “Change is taking place at a dizzying pace in Mongolia, and will continue,” he adds.

“Just like in Egypt, a majority of Mongolia is under 30,” he says, “and it is the young people who will continue to challenge the corruption in the system, and fight for political freedom and civil rights.”
Edward Valente ’97, a critical care registered nurse at Griffin Hospital, Derby, Conn., confers with his supervisor, Morgan D’Amore, RN.
Taking Charge

Nurse practitioners boost skills to meet pressing health care demands

BY ALEJANDRA NAVARRO
In an exam room at the Charter Oak Family Clinic in Hartford, Alicia Noonan, MSN ’10, encourages a 76-year-old man with high cholesterol to cut back on fatty foods and start walking. In Spanish, she carefully describes the health problems that could surface if he doesn’t change.

“He thinks he’s healthy,” she says with a sigh. “I didn’t think I got through to him, but he did come back for another visit. A little bit of fear must have sunk in.”

Eventually patients trust her expertise. “I see patients drop weight or quit smoking,” says Noonan, who spent 18 years in the technology industry before she became a nurse. “It’s terrific when you get through to them.”

For many patients, Noonan is their only access to health care. Her mostly Spanish-speaking clientele talk comfortably with Noonan, a Venezuelan native, about their ailments, and she educates them on the steps they need to take to avoid the diseases that she sees often, such as diabetes, hypertension and high cholesterol. The clinic caters to residents in a low-income neighborhood. She often sends them to a market that has healthy options and gives out low-calorie recipes for traditional dishes. Some patients leave her office with an appreciative, “Thank you, doctor.”

“I let them know that I’m a nurse practitioner, but they still call me doctor,” she says. “Doctors focus on the disease. I focus on the whole person.”

It’s easy to see how they would confuse her for a physician: Noonan gives exams, makes diagnoses, prescribes medication and orders tests, some tasks done in collaboration with clinic physicians.

Noonan’s work illustrates the increasingly important role nurse practitioners play in the health care field, particularly in underserved areas. Nurses have come a long way from changing bedpans and checking glass IV bottles. Their responsibilities have expanded over the decades to include jobs once performed by physicians, such as health assessments.

Medical advances and new technologies require nurses to have more skills. As the profession has progressed, so have the discipline’s educational requirements and opportunities for advanced learning.

To remain on the forefront of this trend, Quinnipiac has transitioned its master’s degree in nursing (the degree Noonan earned) into a doctor of nursing practice to provide advanced clinical knowledge. The first group of students begins this fall. The University also has established a School of Nursing to ensure that the nursing programs develop professionals prepared for new responsibilities that are sure to emerge as more pressure is added to the already overburdened and understaffed health care system.

Is the doctor in?

It’s a story we’ve heard over and over: The U.S. has more people who need primary care physicians than there are physicians to see them. The federal Affordable Care Act will add between 30–32 million
people to the rolls of the insured. As baby boomers age, their health care needs will grow. Yet, about 40,000 physicians are expected to retire by 2020, and many medical school graduates are passing up primary care for more lucrative specialized fields of medicine. Quinnipiac is responding to this need by establishing a School of Medicine with a goal of attracting students who will enter primary care medicine. The University projects an opening date of 2013.

That’s not the only solution. Given the opportunity, the country’s three million nurses could help meet this demand for more health care providers. A movement to widen the scope of practice for nurse practitioners—advanced practice registered nurses who have the highest academic and clinical education and experience—is gaining momentum. Nursing associations in 28 states, including Connecticut, are working to give nurse practitioners the autonomy to practice without collaborating with a physician and receive reimbursement from insurance and government agencies. States including New Hampshire and Rhode Island already allow this.

“The figures are really staggering,” says Jean Lange, dean of Quinnipiac’s new School of Nursing, of the number of people who will need a primary care provider.

“I’m not for anyone going beyond the limitation of what they are educated to do, but removing the barriers preventing people from doing what they are prepared to do is a good idea,” she says. “It’s what we need to cover the health care needs in the country.”

The movement has gained support from The Institute of Medicine of the National Academies. In the 2010 report, “The Future of Nursing,” the institute recommended federal and state governments remove the scope of practice barriers for nurse practitioners. It also recommended that at least 80 percent of all nurses have a bachelor’s degree and the number of nurses with doctoral degrees should double in the next decade. The report received a nod of approval from the Journal of Family Practice. Lange is looking for ways to create a “seamless education” for nurses to reach the advanced practice level quickly, and ways to advance the educational level of nurses with associate’s and bachelor’s degrees.

Still, some physician associations, including the American Academy of Family Physicians, have questioned the quality of care by nurses without physician oversight.

“That is what I call the white coat syndrome—no one can do their jobs better than them,” explains Noonan, who has an excellent relationship working with physicians at the Charter Oak clinic. “We are in the trenches with them!”

Curing solo

Noonan, having worked for health organizations that were understaffed, says there are plenty of patients to go around. She would be elated to have her own practice, which she would establish in an underserved neighborhood. “There is a need out there. That need has to be filled.”

That is apparent at Charter Oak Health Clinic. On a recent weekday morning, almost all waiting room seats, and wall space for leaning, were taken. The security guard took the names of the people streaming into the second floor clinic. He directed them either to the packed waiting room or to the desks where medical assistants collected information in at least three languages. Other health care professionals ushered patients through the maze of hallways that lead to examination rooms where about a dozen nurse practitioners and physicians work.

Many community clinic patients do not have insurance or have Medicare or Medicaid plans that doctors will not accept. Many would turn to emergency rooms for care—or go without it—if they didn’t have community clinics. Noonan contemplated, “Imagine if the unnecessary visits to the ER were eliminated, how much money we would save?”

A lot. If Massachusetts, for example, widened the scope of practice for nurse practitioners and physician assistants, theoretically giving

DNP IN WOMEN’S HEALTH UNIQUE

Quinnipiac will be one of a few schools in the nation to offer a doctor of nursing practice degree with a track in women’s health care.

The demand for nurses in that field is growing, particularly as the medical community learns more about health issues specific to women.

Nurses with a DNP in this field will gain advanced skills in gynecology, contraception options, menopause and obstetrics, as well as advanced training in diagnostic tests, health promotion and pharmaceuticals aimed at women.

Graduates can join a gynecology practice or provide expertise in women’s health at a primary care practice that focuses on women, said Jeanne LeVasseur, professor and director of graduate nursing. She designed the DNP program.

“There is a need for it,” she said. “We’re losing our experts because many are 5 to 10 years from retirement, and fewer people have gone into the specialty in recent times.”

LeVasseur hopes to include a community clinical component, such as working in migrant communities or working at clinics in Nicaragua, where the school has contacts.

Women’s health care is one of five tracks in Quinnipiac’s new, three-year, clinical doctorate program. Nurses with a bachelor’s degree may choose from three DNP tracks: adult practice, family practice or women’s health care.

The DNP program will begin this fall, with the exception of the women’s health care track, which will begin in Fall 2012.

Advanced practice registered nurses with master’s degrees may select either the “care of the individual” track, which offers clinical education to deepen or broaden one’s existing APRN practice, or the “care of populations” track, which prepares graduates for positions that focus on health care and work within systems at the local, regional, national or global level.

The DNP offers nurses an opportunity for career advancement, preparation to serve as much-needed clinical faculty and a higher salary.

“We’ve designed this program to give students additional time to gain fluency in the depth and breadth of care they must provide,” said Lynn Price, associate professor of nursing.
more people access to health care, the state could save $4.2 to $8.4 billion in the next 10 years, according to a 2009 study by the nonprofit think tank, the RAND Corporation. The state could save an additional $6 billion if retail clinics expanded.

Community health clinics, which have been around since the turn of the century, provide care for more than 16 million people. Nurse practitioners generally staff community and retail clinics, such as MinuteClinics in CVS stores. In addition, health care facilities are moving patients out of acute care and into the community health care settings to cut costs.

Nurse practitioner Elizabeth McKinnell ’72, MSN ’06, sees the price paid for limited access to health care. “We see a lot of people with their diseases totally out of control,” says McKinnell, who works at the Charter Oak Health Center in the Frog Hollow section of Hartford. “Many have postponed health care because they didn’t have health insurance for a while.”

Her job requires creativity to make a plan for patients with limited resources or who may not be approved to see a specialist. “I like working with patients who have complex issues,” she says. “They are more challenging, but I really think they appreciate the care that they get.”

In addition to the massive amount of paperwork required of all health care professionals, McKinnell says it can be frustrating having to wait for an approval from a busy physician. She emphasizes that nurses know the limits of their expertise.

“I’ve got a collaborating physician, but I’m basically functioning on my own,” she says. She understands the benefit of working with other health professionals. “If I were a physician, I would still be running cases by my colleagues.”

**It takes a team**

Health care is moving toward a “team” approach in patient care, says Dr. Bruce Koeppen, dean of the Quinnipiac School of Medicine, which is set to open in 2013.

“In the old model, you might have considered the physician the captain of the ship and the nurses members of the crew,” Koeppen says. Today, health care teams more closely resemble a race car pit crew, where each team member has his or her own expertise.

“It’s much more collaborative, with people who have different expertise caring for the patient,” Koeppen says. “From the patient perspective, those health care providers are looking more and more similar in the ways they are interacting with patients.”

The Quinnipiac administration’s goal is to create interdisciplinary learning experiences for students in the Schools of Medicine, Health Sciences and Nursing.

The School of Medicine’s home on the North Haven Campus will be built as a shared space where all health science, nursing and medical students take classes and socialize. The building, scheduled to open in Fall 2012, will have two simulation operating rooms, 16 clinical skills assessment rooms, in addition to the four in the School of Health Sciences, and a cadaver lab. Complementing classroom interactions, the deans envision simulated medical emergencies involving students from all three schools.

Few nursing students in the country will have this type of team preparation that Quinnipiac deans say will be critical in the future. The DNP was created in part because nurses said in a survey that they would have liked more clinical training.

Donna Montesi, MSN ’02, is interested in the DNP program to advance her career. “Nursing also needs to be competitive with other health professions,” explains Montesi, a nurse practitioner at West Haven Medical Group.

Health fields, such as physical therapy and pharmacy, expect professionals to earn doctorates. Currently, only 1 percent of nurses have doctorates, which until recently has been primarily PhD recipients focused on research and teaching.

Nurses’ roles have grown in part because of the breadth and depth of evidence-based research from nurses with PhD and DNP degrees.
“The research that’s out there today is just amazing,” says Edward Valente ’97, a critical care registered nurse at Griffin Hospital in Derby, Conn. He keeps up with new patient care information and sometimes shares it with members of the critical care multidisciplinary roundtable, a gathering of health professionals in a unit—from physicians to physical therapists.

Nurses, who most often are at a patient’s bedside, can provide the team with information that can expedite recovery. Valente also has become the go-to person for questions on medical technologies. He was part of the group that implemented Griffin’s electronic charting system and now gives classes on the system to fellow nurses. More nurses are expanding the scope of their jobs to include technical expertise, particularly as hospitals and other health care organizations look to them to help implement electronic medical records software.

“It has only been 14 years since I graduated,” says Valente, “and it’s incredible how much the technology has changed.”

New medicine

Nursing was a very different profession when Associate Professor Jane Bower joined in 1967 after graduating with a bachelor’s degree from the University of Missouri. She later earned a master’s and a PhD.

“We didn’t have the tests or equipment we do today,” recalls Bower, who worked in maternity “I remember being a senior student caring for a 2-year-old child with leukemia. I knew that child was going to die. Everybody knew that child was going to die. They just didn’t have the treatments.”

Without an electronic fetal monitor, nurses used a stethoscope on the belly to hear the baby’s heartbeat.

“Technology is good but we depend too much on it, and there are some people who are losing their observational touch. Instead of watching the patient, we’re watching the machines. And part of it is that they are so busy,” says Bower, who retired from Quinnipiac this year and is now a professor emerita.

As a nurse, she had time to check linens and give expectant moms a backrub, offering her the opportunity to informally assess the patient and spot problems. Patients were in the hospital for longer stays, allowing them to fully recover. Today, patient problems are more complicated. Back then, she didn’t see numbers of cesarean section births or gestational diabetes—and no cases of HIV.

Nurses remain educators of patients, often providing more explanation than physicians have time to offer. Maternity nurse practitioners, for example, explain the side effects of epidurals that many pregnant women assume they need to have. Nurses have the clinical experience to challenge unhealthy trends, such as delivering too early via cesarean section or having unnecessary epidurals.

“It’s good to make time for those personal connections,” Noonan agrees. She recalls one woman had come to her in tears. She had been diagnosed with breast cancer and was very confused by the physician’s diagnosis and the possible outcomes. Noonan explained what would happen, gave her the name of a nursing home care agency and other resources, and shared with the woman that there could be a silver lining. For Noonan there was.

Noonan was diagnosed with breast cancer the year before she entered graduate school and the year she lost her home to a fire. She had surgery and chemotherapy and is currently cancer free, but it was one of the most challenging periods of her life. During her treatment, she ran across many nurses who helped keep her spirits up (some who cheered when she walked quick laps past the nurses’ station after a surgery and called her the NASCAR girl). They reminded her of the powerful role nurses play.

She encouraged her patient to focus on the things that mattered, even though she knew that after this woman’s surgery and chemotherapy (which was successful), the fear of the cancer returning would never completely go away.

On this morning, “Talking made her feel better,” Noonan says. “When they walk out feeling O.K., I know I’m doing my job.”
WORDS that wound

Bullies deliver cyber-punches on Facebook, cellphones

BY RHEA HIRSHMAN
Bullies have been with us since Cain struck Abel, Jacob stole Esau’s birthright, and Joseph’s brothers sold him into slavery. Whether it’s the fictional Stanley Kowalski terrorizing his wife and sister-in-law in Tennessee Williams’s “A Streetcar Named Desire,” or the real-life big kid in the school yard, few among us have not witnessed a bully at work, using the tools of the trade: the taunt, the rumor, the threat and the fist.

Instances of bullying seem to be on the rise, as well as corresponding lawsuits brought by frustrated parents of victims. According to a 2009 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention study, almost 20 percent of students in grades 9 through 12 reported they had been bullied within the past year.

“Bullying happens regardless of status, class, race and age,” says Lauren Sardi, assistant professor of sociology. “It can happen to children at school or to adults in the workplace. Sometimes the same individuals are both perpetrators and victims,” she notes.

The bully’s toolbox has been fortified with the addition of the cellphone, the laptop and the Facebook page. It is difficult to ascertain whether instances of bullying have in fact increased, or whether more instances are reported.

“I do think that we are seeing an increase in reporting,” Sardi says, “in large part because the nature of bullying among young people is changing now that they can get to each other virtually. In the past, if you were bullied at school, you had some sanctuary at home. But, if the bullying is happening online, there’s no getting away.”

A history of bullying has been a factor in several high-profile instances of mass violence including the shootings at Colorado’s Columbine High School and at Virginia Tech, as well as in the suicides of several young people, including Rutgers University freshman Tyler Clementi, and Minnesota middle school best friends Haylee Frenstess and Paige Moravetz. Recognition of that fact has resulted in increased attention to bullying.

In 2001, for instance—two years after and largely in response to Columbine—the American Medical Association announced that it would support research on the subject, and prepare and distribute educational materials. The AMA also offered this definition: “Bullying is characterized by an imbalance of power, with the person or group doing the bullying having more power than the person being bullied; an intention to harm; repeated occurrences.”

Sardi says, “Bullying is not simply a disagreement or a run-in. It’s targeting—usually for something over which you have no control.” She adds that those who think bullying is normal or a rite of passage should remember that acts that are inducing suicidal thoughts are not something one should be told to “just get over.”

The unique character of cyberbullying is further described by Anne Littlefield, a Quinnipiac School of Law adjunct professor. Littlefield, a school law attorney with Shipman and Goodwin in Hartford, says, “There is only a limited number of witnesses to taunting on a playground or in a hallway. But in cyberspace someone else can, with a single click, magnify the distribution of any taunt or insult so that the actions take on a life of their own—even if the original perpetrator is feeling remorseful. And there are no barriers in cyber-space—a momentary hateful impulse can become an incident that is recorded forever.”

Facebook and Time Warner Inc. announced a joint campaign in July urging students, parents and educators to “Stop Bullying: Speak Up,” according to CNN news reports. The multiplatform campaign will blend broadcast, print and social media tools to start conversations about bullying among parents, students and educators, the companies said.

Alex Halavais, associate professor of communications, comments that at least in theory, “The ‘cyber’ aspect of bullying allows the possibility of more adult intervention than when bullying happened only away from home.”

This increased adult awareness has meant increased involvement of the legal system in what used to be considered a mostly private matter.

“We’re being asked to deal with school-based bullying, from kindergarten through high school, with greater frequency,” says QU adjunct professor of law Julie Fay, also an attorney with Shipman and Goodwin.

Connecticut has anti-bullying legislation on its books, along with 45 other states. The original 2002 legislation defines school-based bullying and requires schools to have policies to address it. The law has just been overhauled to include cyber bullying on the list of prohibited behaviors, as well as to specify training and reporting requirements.

Of course, legislation in and of itself does not stop bullying. Sometimes young people take matters into their own hands, as was done recently by a Westport, Conn., eighth-grader who pleaded her case and asked for help via a YouTube video.

At Quinnipiac, the University conduct system may review and impose sanctions on an individual or group involved in any criminal or civil offense against the state or country. Violations of specifically stated policies as written in the Student Handbook, or otherwise distributed or published rules of Quinnipiac are prohibited. These include physical attack, interference with a person’s customary or usual affairs, harassing phone calls, electronic and/or Internet communication, notes or other behavior that would put a person in fear for his/her safety, or cause the person to suffer actual physical injury or mental distress.

Fay says adults must model desirable behaviors. “We can’t rely on the law in and of itself to curb bullying,” Littlefield says policies and procedures may not be the most effective mechanisms. “When you set a prescribed procedure, the school administration may not have the flexibility to use its best judgment.”

Halavais adds, “Bullying is a larger cultural phenomenon—look at our so-called ‘reality shows’—but we tend to raise the alarm in our schools.” Fay concurs. “Addressing bullying requires a societal approach, ongoing parental involvement, and a concept of education that extends beyond the school walls.”

Still, the schools have an important role to play. “The job of our schools is not only to teach academic subjects,” Littlefield says, “but to teach students how to participate in a multicultural American democracy. We may bring in the law to deal with egregious conduct, but that always happens after the fact. It’s never a more effective tool than education, and paying attention to our kids.”
Leisure ... later
All across America, employees and baby boomers in particular are postponing their retirement dreams to deal with their nightmares of not having enough “gold” to fund their golden years. In a recent survey of financial planners by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the planners said half of their boomer-age clients expect to work at least four years longer than originally planned, and 10 percent expect to toil an additional 7 to 10 years.

resentment could loom on the horizon, not only for employees who may feel that working full time after traditional retirement age is not a choice, but for some workers who had hoped to advance into the vacated jobs of their elders.

At the same time, the typical boomer believes old age does not begin until age 72, according to a Spring 2009 survey by the Pew Research Center. The survey found that 61 percent of them feel an average nine years younger than their chronological age. That may explain why cosmetic procedures are on the increase nationally, especially for men, according to the American Society of Plastic Surgeons.

Dr. Lisa Donofrio ’83, a cosmetic surgeon at The Savin Center in New Haven and at another office in New York City, says, “Certainly the recession has played a big part in boomers wanting to stay viable in the job market and for those people who lost their positions and now find themselves up against a younger, more competitive work force.”

The notion of defying age has never been more marketed. “The current focus on anti-aging remedies has become very controversial,” says Lynne Hodgson, professor of sociology and director of the gerontology program. “The very term ‘anti-aging’ is defined differently in the scientific/medical community and in the business community. The scientific and medical communities conduct research that could lead to preventing or slowing the aging process, but there is much concern about the potential for misuse and abuse of anti-aging marketing. Additionally, gerontologists are concerned with the negativity of labeling a whole industry ‘anti-aging.’”

Longer lifelines

Hodgson says the notion of a retirement age was based on a life expectancy that is nothing like the current age of 80 years. “When we were living only into our mid-60s to early-70s, we thought we’d retire by 65 and have a few years left. Now, people are staying healthier longer and living longer, so the age at which you are supposed to retire is based on a life/health expectancy that no longer matches the reality.”

This year, the oldest baby boomers will turn 65, and by 2030, 18 percent of the nation’s population will be at least that age as compared to 13 percent today, according to Pew projections. The 79-million-member baby boom generation accounts for 26 percent of the total U.S. population. That Pew survey (in Spring 2009) of 3,000 boomers also asked about retirement. Thirty-five percent of adults ages 62 and older who were still working said they have already delayed retirement because of the recession. Among adults ages 50 to 61 who are currently employed, 6-in-10 said they may have to delay retirement.

Those who look longingly at their older friends who were able to retire younger in the 1990s when the economy was robust could benefit from a reframing of the problem, says Carrie Bulger, professor of psychology:

“It probably would be healthiest to think, ‘OK, so I can’t retire yet, but working a few more years now will build up my nest egg so when I do retire, the many years I have after that will be more comfortable.’”

She imagines that not all boomers will be disappointed at postponing retirement. “Some may be relieved that they don’t have to retire, because retirement is not necessarily what it used to be. That’s
why many people choose to ‘bridge’ into retirement by working part-time, volunteering or going into consultant work.”

Bulger says that for many years, organizations worried about the drain on institutional knowledge that would happen when all the boomers retired, taking their years of experience with them. And, they worried about the relative dearth of employees to replace them because Gen Xers are fewer in number.

So, boomers working longer makes succession planning a bit easier for employers, but Bulger points out that people behind them could be “stuck in lower-level positions.”

And there is the technology question. “Most training in organizations is targeted at younger, newer employees, but boomers will likely need training, too, as technology continues to change the way we work,” Bulger says. Research indicates that as long as people stay on top of new developments, their performance does not generally suffer as they age, she says, adding, “But organizations often assume that to be the case.”

Catherine Solomon, professor of sociology, says research shows workers over 65 make fewer errors and have demonstrated more loyalty to date than younger counterparts who are more likely to move or switch jobs.

“In fact, Days Inn recruits people over 65—they work more slowly, but they are better at customer service, more friendly, not as rushed and their conversations with customers result in more reservations,” she says.

While there is a difference between working because one has to or working because one wants to, Solomon thinks boomers in particular will enjoy staying engaged because of their use of social networking and their active lifestyle.

“The boomers are the largest cohort and not a quiet one,” accord-
While there is a difference between working because one has to or working because one wants to, Professor Catherine Solomon thinks boomers in particular will enjoy staying engaged because of their use of social networking and their active lifestyle.

Defying age

In February, the American Society of Plastic Surgeons released statistics showing that 13.1 million cosmetic plastic surgery procedures, including those that were minimally invasive, were performed in the U.S. in 2010, up 5 percent from 2009. The top two minimally invasive procedures were Botox injections and soft tissue fillers.

“Injectables have remained robust despite the economy,” says Dr. Phillip Haeck, president of the American Society of Plastic Surgeons. “As the aging population continues to grow, people are investing in plastic surgery procedures to help stay competitive in the workplace.” The society reported that cosmetic procedures among men in the U.S. increased by 2 percent from 2009 to 2010.

Donofrio’s patients mostly opt for gel wrinkle fillers for lines around the nose and mouth (like Restylane, Juvederm and Radiesse) and neuromodulators (such as Botox and Dysport) for frown lines, crow’s feet, forehead and downturned mouth corners.

Donofrio says many of her patients have not done anything cosmetic before. “I get a sense of guilt surrounding their choice to do cosmetic intervention, especially when their family is struggling financially. I start by suggesting they try to mitigate anything on their face that makes them appear constantly mad, sad or tired. This way I feel we are accomplishing a goal that goes beyond vanity. So softening frown lines, lines around the mouth and minimizing dark circles usually makes them feel more confident and competitive in the workplace.”

Laser treatments can yield more noticeable results. Donofrio explains there are no-downtime lasers, minimal-downtime lasers and moderate-downtime lasers. “For wrinkle treatment, patients need to take a week off from work and social activities, but the results are often dramatic and well worth it,” she says.

One of the most popular treatments she does involves use of the Exilis, a radio frequency device used to tighten skin on the face and body. “There is no downtime, it’s painless, and patients can return to work immediately after a treatment (usually a series of four is recommended). The results are quite good for what it is in most cases.”

Exilis uses ultrasound vibrations to dislodge stubborn pockets of fat and radio frequency energy to liquify it. Once liquefied, the body eliminates the fat through the lymphatic drainage system. The heat energy also causes the skin’s collagen to contract, which smooths the skin and reduces wrinkles.

Michael Brown, MHS ’98, a physician assistant with Pioneer Valley Dermatology in Massachusetts, does “a little Botox” on patients ranging in age from 20s to 80s. “Although it’s not my greatest interest, wrinkle elimination is definitely on the rise, and the newer fillers are safer.”

When he thinks about boomers, as a group, skin cancer comes to mind. “Boomers have skin cancer rates that are "off the charts," he says. “They had a tremendous amount of sun exposure ... You see the pictures of people in the 1930s, ’40s and ’50s with long bathing suits, and then the ’60s and ’70s with bikinis and no effective sunscreens. Some doctors actually said sun was good for acne. Now, they are paying the price for all that exposure.”

The simplest way to slow aging of the skin, Brown says, is with an over-the-counter cream with retinol as an active ingredient. Or prescription Retin A, which is proven to help with fine lines, wrinkling and skin tone. “It cannot reverse damage, but it does help going forward.” He advises using a good moisturizer, mild cleanser, reducing sun exposure and quitting smoking.

“Science tells you that you can put color in your hair to cover gray, and collagen in your face, but the truth is, it’s not going to change the fact that you are older,” Hodgson says.

“Until and unless science comes up with a way of increasing our lifespan, and by that I mean our healthful lifespan, the baby boomers are going to need to come to terms with this final stage of life,” Hodgson adds.
Andy Zides ’03 had the skills to play Division I baseball at Quinnipiac, but he never imagined he’d make it to the National Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, N.Y. “I knew early on that I was not good enough to get drafted,” said Zides, who graduated with bachelor’s degrees in communications and history.

“I wasn’t a starter on the baseball team. Being that I loved the game, I wanted to see if I could do something off the field.” That led the Canton, Mass., native to baseball’s Mecca.

In 2001, Zides teamed with Grace Levine, a communications professor who also serves as internship program director, to apply for a new offering at the Hall of Fame — The Frank and Peggy Steele Internship Program for Youth Leadership Development.

But life threw Zides a curveball during the application process. The sophomore suffered a serious head injury at batting practice.

“Grace Levine was instrumental in keeping my application alive,” Zides said. “She kept in touch with the Hall of Fame while I was in the hospital recovering from my injury. She was wonderful. It was one of the benefits of going to a school like Quinnipiac. If there were 20,000 kids at the school, I might have gotten lost in the shuffle.”

Instead, Zides recovered from his injury, interviewed with the Hall of Fame and landed the prestigious internship. He would be the first of five Quinnipiac students to do so.

Anna Wade, director of education at the Hall of Fame, described the Steele Internship as a comprehensive, 10-week program. Interns receive hands-on training in 17 different professional careers, including research, photo archives, exhibit design, membership, marketing, public relations and special events.

“We receive applications from all over the country,” Wade said. “We average about 450 from undergraduate and grad students for 20 positions each summer. It’s a very competitive program.”

Interns play an integral part in the annual Hall of Fame Weekend and Induction Ceremony, participate in professional development workshops and are required to complete a reflective essay at the end of the summer, according to Wade. She described the Quinnipiac students she’s met as “enthusiastic, driven and focused.”

Zides spent the summer of 2001 in Cooperstown, living at SUNY College at Oneonta and working in the Hall of Fame’s research library.

“My responsibilities included fact-checking for baseball writers and authors who were doing research,” Zides said. “Almost every day, people who were visiting the Hall would stop by and want to research their favorite player, whether it be Babe Ruth, Jackie Robinson, Sandy Koufax or their Great Uncle Joe, who played professional baseball in the 1930s.”

During his internship, Zides rubbed elbows with Hall of Famers Brooks Robinson, Warren Spahn, Duke Snider, Bob Feller and Kirby Puckett. He did research for former Brooklyn Dodger Carl Erskine as well as ex-Pittsburgh Pirate Bill Mazeroski, who is best known for winning the 1960 World Series with a walk-off home run and was enshrined at the Hall in 2001.

“Bill Mazeroski stopped by to take a look at the different things the Hall of Fame had for him; different artifacts such as his uniform, glove, bat and newspaper articles,” Zides remembered.
Nicole Pappas ’11, a public relations major/sports studies minor, is participating in the Steele Internship Program this summer. Three other Quinnipiac students have interned in Cooperstown since Zides cracked the Hall of Fame lineup in 2001. They are: Bridget Bielefeld ’10 and Aisha Johnson ’09, who both did internships in 2009; and Ashley Morgan ’03, who interned in 2002.

A public relations major, Bielefeld did her internship the summer before her senior year. She recently completed an internship for the New York Yankees in the media relations department. Bielefeld said her Hall of Fame experience was ideal because she was able to combine her love of baseball with her passion for public and media relations. Her responsibilities included writing feature articles for its website, editing press releases, and research.

“I also helped organize and run press conferences featuring 2009 inductees Jim Rice and Ricky Henderson,” she said. “I think having that public relations experience with the Baseball Hall of Fame helped distinguish my candidacy with the Yankees,” she added.

Pappas, who loves baseball, also has interned with the New England Collegiate Baseball League as well as the New Hampshire Fisher Cats and the New Britain Rock Cats.

In mid-June, Pappas was hard at work on the Hall of Fame Classic, a weekend where former players descend on Cooperstown to teach children skills and then compete in a game that Sunday. She was looking forward to interacting with former Red Sox player Jim Rice and former Yankee Goose Gossage, among others. The previous week, the interns were visited by the president of minor league baseball, who dispensed employment tips.

“They took us into the collections—the artifacts not on display—and I saw Lou Gehrig’s uniform, Ted Williams’ bat and Roberto Clemente’s hat. It was nice to be up close and personal with such pieces of history,” Pappas said.

Levine said the Hall of Fame attracts Quinnipiac students because of the wide range of opportunities, the beautiful location, available housing and stipend. “The ‘Hall of Fame Five,’ I believe, have characteristics in common,” Levine said. “All are intelligent, skilled, outgoing, dynamic and dedicated. And, they have a love of baseball.”

After Cooperstown, Zides interned with the Triple-A Pawtucket Red Sox as well as the Tampa Bay Devil Rays. “The Devil Rays wanted me to start helping them out as an intern in April 2003, and senior graduation was in May,” Zides recalled. “I was actually able to work with my professors and leave college a month early. The last month of school, I submitted work online for my professors. It was another great benefit of going to a school like Quinnipiac, where they are willing to work with students to meet their needs.”

Morgan, now assistant general manager of Fitness For You in North Andover, Mass., has fond memories of her Hall of Fame job. “Almost 10 years later, I still find myself rattling off the same interesting stories including my 20-minute conversation with Hall of Famer Warren Spahn about his time in Boston.”

Morgan returned in 2006 for an intern reunion to “keep the lines of communication open with many that I have met through the years and from across the nation who worked there.”

Zides now works as a special education administrator in Massachusetts. Since 2001, he has been invited back to Cooperstown every summer to address the new crop of interns. He is always pleased to see a fellow Bobcat.

“The fact that Quinnipiac has had so many interns at the Hall of Fame from such a small school is really remarkable,” he said. “It speaks very highly about the quality of students at QU.”
FACULTY

Her wish ‘granted’

NIH supports Thomas’ research  By Jamie DeLoma

Four years ago, Lise Thomas began studying transient receptor potential ion channels—specific proteins that alter the amount of calcium in a cell. If calcium levels are too high or unregulated, they could become toxic and potentially fatal for a cell, explained Thomas, associate professor of biology.

So, she focused on the external factors that influence TRP ion channels’ maintenance of calcium levels.

“It’s a field I have been working in for a very long time,” said Thomas, who began her research in 1987, before most of her students were born. “This particular avenue is new.”

The National Institutes of Health found this research valuable as well, awarding Thomas a three-year, $262,835 grant to research the role that the ion channels play as environmental sensors. The grant also provides funding for student participation in research.

The amount of calcium in the cell regulates a number of metabolic processes. “Calcium is an important ion in the body and it plays many roles,” Thomas said. “The body has to be very careful about how it responds to calcium, so it has evolved many systems for sequestering calcium. We are interested in learning how that works.”

Thomas added that it is important to have calcium at the right time at the right concentration. “To regulate the calcium amounts, you need a protein to release or sequester the calcium. A TRP channel is one such protein. What we are studying is what parts of the protein are important for its proper function, which stimuli cause the channel to open, and ultimately, the cellular consequences of channel activity,” she said.

TRP channel dysfunction has been linked to diseases ranging from polycystic kidney disease to bipolar disorder. An understanding of how these channels are regulated in their cellular environment is necessary to understand the mechanism underlying TRP channel pathologies.

“The idea that TRP channels release calcium from intracellular stores is relatively new and unexplored,” she said. While TRP channels have been studied, the amount of research in this context is limited, she said. She estimates that about 10 other people around the world are studying similar processes.

Thomas’ grant supports projects in schools that have not traditionally been major recipients of NIH funds, such as primarily undergraduate institutions. NIH Academic Research Enhancement Awards are intended to strengthen institutions’ research infrastructures and engage students in the inquiry process.

Thomas, who had been organizing and carrying out preliminary testing since coming to Quinnipiac, is currently working with graduate students Christine Bourdeau and Noura Zahran and upperclassmen Samantha Ho, Justin Hofmann, Timothy O’Rourke and Jennifer Umegou. Last spring the research group also included freshmen Erica Cadavid, Sean Curley, Kirsten Knecht, Michael Legregni, Alexa Policastro and Michael Weiner.

The grant is supporting student summer research projects, money for supplies, and funding for students to attend scientific meetings to present their data, Thomas said.

“The undergraduate students will experience the entire scientific process, from designing and performing experiments through presenting data,” she said.

The research is still in its early stages, but Thomas said she is happy with the progress being made.

“It is a real honor to receive the grant,” she said. “It will provide access to many new and different resources, and will allow me to substantially increase both the size and breadth of my research team.”
Fearful memories
Alumna studied energy-drink-PTSD relationship  By Donna Pintek

When Kristen Lawler ’10 undertook an independent research project involving rodents, caffeine and taurine (an active ingredient in energy drinks), her goal was to find a way to help veterans. Her research demonstrated that stimulants, such as caffeine, affect fear memory processing, thus affecting a trauma-exposed individual’s vulnerability to developing post-traumatic stress disorder.

Although Lawler, a psychology major, had no previous experience with neuroscience, she was interested in PTSD, which later became the topic of her senior thesis. Her interest in the subject peaked when she met Adrienne Betz, Quinnipiac assistant professor of psychology, who gave a talk titled “Is Fear Learning Enhanced by Amphetamine and Other Psychostimulants?” at the Psi Chi induction ceremony in 2008.

At the time, Betz was a postdoctoral associate in the psychology department at Yale University. Lawler was fascinated with Betz’s research. When she learned that Betz was starting a lab at Quinnipiac, she volunteered to be a research assistant.

“There are a lot of human implications for memory research in rodents in post-traumatic stress disorder,” said Lawler, who is now a research coordinator at Inflexxion, a behavioral health research company based in Newton, Mass.

“Our thought was that, if deployed soldiers consumed three or four Red Bull energy drinks a day, it might affect the way they process a traumatic event and therefore their vulnerability to developing PTSD after coming home. We wanted to see if it does something to their brain that would produce an observable effect later,” Lawler said.

She characterizes the results as significant. “The rats that had caffeine in their drinking water exhibited significantly more fearful behavior than the rats not drinking caffeine without demonstrating anxious behaviors.” The yardstick for measuring fear was freezing behavior. “We calculated how many seconds out of two minutes a rat was moving versus being in a frozen position. A rat that is moving and exploring is considered to be less scared,” Lawler said.

“We were a little surprised that the Red Bull (which contains both substances) has a protective effect in regard to memory dysfunction,” noted Betz.

Lawler and the other research assistants also noticed a trend with the taurine, which seemed to act as a protective agent. The rats that were consuming both caffeine and taurine seemed to be retaining less fear than those consuming caffeine alone.

During her senior year, Lawler presented her findings at the annual meeting of the Society for Neuroscience in San Diego. Melissa Reilly ’11 and Danielle Bissell ’11 attended the conference as well. Lawler’s travel expenses were funded by a grant from the Faculty for Undergraduate Neuroscience. She also received the Psi Chi Undergraduate Research Grant for her proposal to carry out the project.

Lawler, who also was a statistics peer fellow while at Quinnipiac, prepared a poster as part of the scientific conference, outlining her research and results. The poster included graphs of the rats’ behavior, as well as some physiological findings (based on cortisol—or stress hormone—levels in the blood).

Betz, who is director of the behavioral neuroscience program at Quinnipiac, continues to mentor other undergraduates in her lab, where the research continues, exploring the effects of taurine and other pharmacological compounds.

Lawler uses her skills in her current job, conducting literature searches for research topics, organizing data, pilot testing and field trials.
Distinguished Alumni Awards 2011

Quinnipiac University will honor five individuals with the Distinguished Alumni Award during an induction brunch October 15 as part of the Homecoming celebration. A Distinguished Service Award and Recent Alumni Award also will be presented during the event.

Patrick Baumgarten ’73
Distinguished Alumni Award

Patrick Baumgarten received his bachelor’s degree in marketing from Quinnipiac in 1973. He is the former business manager and shareholder of the Agency for the Performing Arts, a highly successful talent agency that was started in 1962 by his father, David, in New York, N.Y.

APA represents talented artists such as Betty White, Golden Globe and Oscar Nominee Viola Davis, comedian Lewis Black, and late-night TV host Craig Ferguson. Baumgarten has served as a member of the Quinnipiac University Board of Trustees since 2004 and currently lives in Los Angeles, Calif.

Baumgarten competes in open road racing (high-speed car races held on closed highways), driving a Ferrari 360 Modena emblazoned with the Quinnipiac bobcat.

Albert Canosa ’69
Distinguished Alumni Award

Albert Canosa received his bachelor’s degree in accounting from Quinnipiac in 1969. Canosa served as president, chief executive officer, chief financial officer and director of Raytech Corporation, a leading international manufacturer of vehicular components, from 1998 to 2004. He piloted Raytech through a 12-year, asbestos-related bankruptcy process, from which the company emerged financially healthy and a market-leading competitor worldwide.

Currently, Canosa is managing director of Sir Speedy Printing & Marketing Services. He was elected to Quinnipiac University’s Board of Trustees in 2002 and is a director and chairman of the audit committee of LATICRETE International.

He previously served as a member of the board of the United Way of Branford, director of Tasker Products and a member of the board of directors of Marlin Firearms Company, headquartered in Madison, N.C.

He also was the chairman of the Private School Board and chairman of both the school board and parish council at St. Mary Church in Branford, Conn., where he and his wife Sharon live. Their son, Adam, is a 2007 graduate of Quinnipiac.

Robert W. Johnson ’72
Distinguished Alumni Award

Robert W. Johnson of Mclean, Va., retired from the CIA in 2010 after 35 years of domestic and foreign service with the agency and the U.S. Department of Defense.

Johnson also is a retired Army Reserve major with 24 years of active and reserve service in the Military Intelligence Corps and the Military Police Corps.

A 1968 Hamden High School graduate, he attended Quinnipiac on the Town of Hamden Scholarship. Johnson earned a degree in economics from Quinnipiac in 1972.

With a lifelong passion for ice hockey, Johnson endowed Quinnipiac’s first fund to benefit men’s hockey and supported the construction of the TD Bank Sports Center with a contribution in memory of his parents.

A member of the QU Athletics Advisory Board, Johnson is a season ticket holder who regularly travels from Virginia to attend ice hockey games with his fellow TKE fraternity alumni brothers.
Michael Zavodsky ’07
RECENT ALUMNI AWARD
Michael Zavodsky earned a bachelor’s degree in marketing with a psychology minor in 2007. As a student, he was involved in intramural sports and landed an internship-of-a-lifetime as the direct intern to the president and CEO of the New Jersey Nets Sports & Entertainment, LLC, Brett Yormark. Following graduation, Zavodsky joined Nets Sports & Entertainment as an account executive. He then was appointed director of new corporate marketing ventures where he excelled by increasing sponsorship sales, player endorsement deals and new revenue streams for the New Jersey Net’s official website, njnets.com.

In 2010, Zavodsky earned the distinction of being the youngest vice president in the NBA when he was named VP for new corporate marketing ventures for Nets Sports & Entertainment. In this role, he oversees business development, corporate sales and strategic planning, among other duties. Zavodsky was selected as a Charter Oak Society Scholar in 2006. He is active with the New Jersey Alumni Chapter.

Donald L. Perlooth ’53
DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD
Donald L. Perlooth is the senior and managing partner of Donald L. Perlooth & Company, a firm he founded in the early 1950s. He is a 1953 graduate of Quinnipiac with a bachelor’s degree in business administration. He also earned an MBA from the Leonard Stern Graduate School of Business at New York University. Perlooth recently completed his chairmanship of the Saint Raphael Foundation Inc., and served as a member on the hospital’s board of trustees and its finance and audit committees.

He served as a trustee, treasurer and finance chairman at Whitney Center, a continuing care retirement community. He also served as president of the New Haven Colony Historical Society, and chapter chairman of the South Central Connecticut Chapter of the American Red Cross and the New Haven Chapter of the Institute of Management Accountants.

Perlooth has served as a member of the Quinnipiac University Board of Trustees since 1987. He and his wife, Charlotte, reside in New Haven.

Maxwell Stock ’47
DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD
Maxwell “Mac” Stock earned an associate’s degree in accounting in 1947 from Quinnipiac, then the Junior College of Commerce, and earned a bachelor’s degree from City College of New York.

In 1952, he became a certified public accountant and also began nearly three decades of teaching at Quinnipiac. In 1959, he partnered with fellow Quinnipiac instructor Harold Gessner to run an accounting firm.

In 1967, Stock was retained as the outside auditor and accountant for Eagle Leasing Company headquartered in Orange, Conn. When the business faced challenges in 1979, the Eagle family asked him to join the staff full-time.

As CEO, Stock headed Eagle Leasing Company’s expansion from a few thousand trailers to more than 13,000 and added two offices in Southboro and Oxford, Mass. A member of Quinnipiac’s Charter Oak Society, Stock endowed a scholarship for a graduate student in the School of Business. He and his wife, Elaine, reside in New Haven.

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Nelson Bernabucci, founder of the Branford Hall School of Business, celebrated his 85th birthday by treating his five grandchildren, ages 9 to 21, to a 10-day trip to southern Italy in June 2010. All 11 members of the Bernabucci family enjoyed the memorable trip. He lives in Branford, CT.

Ann (Crowder) Herrick released her young adult e-book, All’s Fair in Love and Words. She lives in Eugene, OR.

Bruce Rux of Monroe, LA, is a retired Presbyterian minister. He remains active serving churches in the rural south.

Robert Passero is a senior advanced sales consultant for MetLife Investor’s Wealth Advisory Group. His article, “Has No-Lapse Universal Life Been Oversold?” was published in Life Insurance Selling’s Dec. 2010 issue. He lives in Glastonbury, CT, with his wife, Debbie Passero ’70, and has been an avid toy train collector for more than 30 years.

Jane D. Woodfin ’71 recently retired after serving as the legislative director in the U.S. Senate for 15 years. She lives in McLean, VA.

74 Daniel Benz of Stanhope, NJ, was named “Teacher of the Year” at Morris Knolls High School, where he has been a teacher and coach for 34 years.

Denise Fiore ’78, MBA ’91 of Clinton, CT, was named vice president of clinical support services at Yale-New Haven Hospital. She serves on the Quinnipiac University School of Health Sciences Advisory Board and is president of the Connecticut Hospital Laboratory Network.

78 William T. Platt of North Haven, CT, was presented the 2010 Practitioner Service Award by the Federation of Schools of Accountancy in February. He is deputy managing partner of the professional practice network and deputy chief quality officer of attest at Deloitte & Touche LLP.

Robert Bruck of Charlotte, NC, was inducted into the Middletown Sports Hall of Fame in January 2011. He started in Middletown’s youth baseball programs and was an All-Star at every level. Robert was drafted in the 15th round in 1983 by the Seattle Mariners and played five years in their system.

73 Ralph Sperry of Glastonbury, CT, is the chief operating officer of The May Institute in Randolph, MA, and recently received his board certification in psychology from the American Board of Professional Psychology.

79 Suzanne (Sherman) Swansburg is a nurse for North Reading Public Health and serves as a volunteer member of the regional Medical Reserve Corps. in Andover, MA. She lives in North Reading, MA, with her husband, Jack, and their son, Kevin, 14.

James P. Cyr Jr. is a registered nurse and vice president of the UMass Memorial Health Care’s Heart and Vascular and Diabetes Center of Excellence. He has coached basket-

80 ball at St. James School for the past 16 years. He was named chairman of the American Heart Association’s Central Massachusetts Heart and Stroke Ball, which was in February in Worcester, MA. He lives in Danielson, CT, with his wife, Jean. They have three children, Jamie, 25, Jackie, 23, and Joey, 19.

Peter Sabesan of Jericho, NY, co-founder of Hunter Realty Organization, recently partnered with Coldwell Banker. His company has been rebranded as Coldwell Banker Commercial Hunter Realty, where he serves as co-principal and co-president.

81 Deborah Whitcomb of Cincinnati, OH, owns the Cincinnati Occupational Therapy Institute and serves on the board of visitors for the department of occupational therapy at Xavier University. In April 2011, she received an American Occupational Therapy Foundation/Patterson Foundation award for her community volunteer work.

83 Robert Bruck of Charlotte, NC, was inducted into the Middletown Sports Hall of Fame in January 2011. He started in Middletown’s youth baseball programs and was an All-Star at every level. Robert was drafted in the 15th round in 1983 by the Seattle Mariners and played five years in their system.

86 Giuseppina (Mendillo) Violano is Yale-New Haven Hospital’s injury prevention coordinator. She was awarded “National Child Passenger Safety Technician of the Year” at the Lifesavers Conference in Phoenix, AZ, in March 2011. She recently completed the requirements for her doctoral degree in public health from Walden University. She lives in Hamden with her husband, Paul.
Jim Totten ’87 felt his leadership wings sprout as a member of the Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity, or TKE. While working on TKE projects, he learned how to build a successful organization and work with people to find common ground.

Next year Totten will mark 25 years as an accountant for a multinational company, but his college years remain fresh in his mind because of his continuing relationships with his TKE brothers of yesteryear and today.

Totten is proud of the fraternity’s national recognition the past two years as a Top TKE chapter for its campus leadership, academic achievement and impressive community service record. “These student leaders are usually strong academically and want to be a positive force on campus,” he said. TKE currently directs its philanthropic support to the St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital.

“There is more to college than four classroom walls. Half the success in life comes from working with people and learning how to move projects forward,” Totten noted.

To reward that drive, Totten, along with five TKE brothers from diverse class years, established an endowed scholarship fund to help TKE members afford their educations. TKE alumni are invited to add to the fund, and current brothers will be encouraged to “give a little today and a little more tomorrow” to grow the scholarship beyond its initial $25,000.

The other lead donors are: Dominic D. Contessa ’71, president of Contessa Insurance Agency, North Haven, Conn.; Patrick T. Ippolito ’08, owner of Atlantic ATM; Christopher Pia ’09, financial services professional, New York Life; James Stewart ’06, market development manager for Exagen Diagnostics; and Nolan West ’73, owner of Longford’s Own-made Ice Cream in Port Chester, NY.

Totten, of Alexandria, Va., is a global adviser for Exxon Mobil Corporation Downstream Controllers.

“I got a lot out of the fraternity and the connections I made—Jim Totten really made an impression on me,” said Pia, who speaks annually at the TKE national conference about the importance of networking with brothers. Pia is president of QU’s TKE Alumni Association.

After discussing the scholarship with QU’s Office of Development and Alumni Affairs, Totten reached out to Stewart, who serves as chairman of the TKE Board of Advisers, a body that provides programming guidance to the campus chapter. The pair had met in 2005 at a TKE national conference in New Orleans, La. Both men were acquainted with Pia and Ippolito from working with the student chapter, and Totten had met Contessa at a TKE reunion.

Stewart, an entrepreneurship major, sought out Totten in New Orleans to solicit ideas about making the chapter (22 members at the time) grow. Totten suggested getting more alumni involved, and played an active role himself. “Now, membership numbers in the mid-60s, and it has been amazing to see the transition,” Stewart said.

Assuming leadership roles in TKE is like running a business, Stewart added. “We were raising money and we had to troubleshoot, delegate, learn to operate on the fly, reprimand where necessary and hold each other accountable. It was great real-world preparation. TKE was the lubricant to make that happen, and I am grateful for that.”

To contribute to the TKE endowed scholarship, contact amy.rosen@quinnipiac.edu or 203-582-8134.
They have four children: Cristina, 19; Marcella, 17; Giana, 12; and Daniela, 9.

Richard Newman is a studio manager for Microsoft Game Studios. He is leading a team of world class producers in Japan creating and marketing games for the Xbox 360. He lives in Tokyo, Japan.

Nancy Staples wed Michael Hebert ’90 on March 26, 2011. They met at Quinnipiac as students, reunited on Facebook 20 years later, and now live in Old Saybrook, CT.

Allyson (Kerkes) Burns has joined Allen Tate Realtors in Mooresville, NC, where she lives.

Brian Dolan was promoted to deputy fire marshal for the town of Hamden, where he lives.

Donna Latella of Guilford, CT, is a professor of occupational therapy and director of the academic integrity program at Quinnipiac University.

Wendy (Kaplan) Stav of Columbia, MD, was promoted to associate professor with tenure at Towson University in Towson, MD.

Christopher Canetti of Houston, TX, is president of the Houston Dynamo. He was named to Sports Business Journal’s Forty under 40 list for 2010.

Lisa Caissie of Worcester, MA, is the volunteer services manager for The Trustees of Reservations, the nation’s oldest statewide land trust. She is responsible for the recruitment, engagement and management of the thousands of volunteers who help to care for organization’s 105 reservations annually.

Dan Semple ’96 and Linda (Anderson) Semple ’97 live in North Haven, CT, with their two children, Ryan, 4, and Emily, 2½.

Kevin Crowley ’97, MBA ’00 of South Windsor, CT, is managing director of investments for Connecticut Innovations. He serves on the boards of Affinimark Technologies, interactive MOBILE Advertising, and Oil Purification Systems, among others. He is also a board observer for Cara Therapeutics.

Amy (Sturgis) Harrison of Wilmington, NC, is a senior clinical research associate for ClinOps LLC. She has two children, Kaitlyn Mary, 7, and Andrew Robert, 4.

Kim (McGinnis) Mannino and her husband, Aldo, announce the birth of their son, Aldo Joseph, on Dec. 6, 2010. He joins big sister, Sienna Rose, 3. The family lives in Milford, CT.

Paula Cruz Cedillo ’98, JD ’01 of Wallingford, CT, is a partner at

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McCarter & English in the business and financial services litigation practice group in Hartford. 

Michael Minutoli wed Leigh Anne Berte on Nov. 5, 2010. The couple lives in West Hempstead, NY. Michael volunteers as the president of Quinnipiac’s Greater New York City Alumni Chapter. 


Deborah Gross Saunders, MS ’99, is a physical therapist and the owner of Wizard of Paws, a facility on her 23-acre Colchester, CT, farm for dog rehabilitation. Deborah earned her doctorate in physical therapy in August 2008 at the University of Tennessee.

Eric DelRicci of Tewksbury, MA, underwent a successful 12-hour surgery to donate part of his liver to his 18-year-old cousin, Jordan DelRicci, in January 2011. He is a program finance manager at Raytheon. 

Kristen (Mitchell) Hafner ’00, MHS ’02 of Lake Worth, FL, is a board-certified physician assistant at Integrated Dermatology in West Palm Beach, FL. 

Peter Vosler of Pittsburg, PA, returned to campus to talk to students about his dissertation and the road to earning his PhD and MD. He is completing his residency in otolaryngology at the University of Pittsburgh. 

Jason Watson of is a board-certified assistant behavior analyst, and coordinator of adult, vocational and family services. He lives in New Hyde Park, NY, with his wife, Kirsten.

John Dankosky MS ’01 of Winsted, CT, is the news director at WNPR in Hartford and is the host of its morning talk program, “Where We...”

## John von Stein 81

Alumnus heads Saudi Stock Exchange  By Alejandra Navarro

One Thursday afternoon, John von Stein ’81 was stuck in “weekend” traffic in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, where the workweek begins on Saturday. On his way to a black-tie British Embassy fundraiser supporting battered women, burning gas (which costs 48 cents a gallon) wasn’t on his mind, but investments were.

He is the chief operating officer of the Saudi Stock Exchange, known as Tadawul, which lists 146 companies. It has one of the largest pools of investment capital and one of the least complete capital markets, which makes it prime for growth.

Tadawul is governed by the Capital Market Law, which was established in 2003. Society is governed by Islamic law, which has a much narrower view on acceptable investments and transactions. For example, Islamic practice does not allow one to sell something he does not own, so structured arbitrage transactions are not practiced.

Von Stein oversaw the development of Saudi Arabia’s first two exchange-traded funds and helped to launch Tadawul’s “business-to-customer” channel. In March, he restructured a large part of the exchange. “I promoted a Saudi woman to a management position for the first time in Tadawul’s history, which was a big deal,” he notes. He hopes to introduce risk management tools, such as derivatives.

“For me, change is happening at a snail’s pace,” he says. “For Saudis, it’s going at lightening speed.”

He’s learned to successfully navigate cultural challenges, having also worked in London, Geneva, Singapore, Buenos Aires and Sao Paulo. His family lives in Chicago, where his three children attend school.

It was a long road to the Middle East. Von Stein graduated with honors during a global economic recession in 1981, and with few job prospects, earned an MBA from the University of Bridgeport.

His international experience began while working at Louis-Dreyfus and blossomed when, in 1994, he joined Cargill Inc., one of the largest commodities trading and food processing/supply chain firms. He eventually headed Cargill’s IT operations in Latin America. He then spent five years as the executive vice president and CIO of the Chicago-based Options Clearing Corp., the largest derivatives clearing organization in the world.

Von Stein is pleased with the progress he’s made in Saudi Arabia. “After two years of slogging through quicksand and running into cultural walls,” he said, “I’m finally starting to have fun!”
Live.” He is the Robert C. Vance Endowed Chair in Journalism and Mass Communication at CCSU. He also teaches a class in radio journalism at Central Connecticut State University.

Giuliana Marzot wed Russell Lerch Jr. on Oct. 2, 2010. Kimberly Obst ’01 was a member of her bridal party. The couple lives in Hicksville, NY.

Seth Milligan ’01, JD/MBA ’04 is an attorney at Cummings & Lockwood LLC in Stamford, CT.

Steven Werturek is the national accounts sales manager at The Canyons Resort in Park City, UT.

Alexis Ciani of Hoboken, NJ, wed Richard DeJianne on Oct. 2, 2010. The bridal party included fellow graduate Laura Garren ’02. Alexis is the pediatric outpatient rehabilitation manager at the University Medical Center at Princeton.

Michael Cody wed Katherine McCann ’02, MAT ’03, on July 10, 2010, in Southampton, Bermuda. Katie is a first grade teacher in Middlebury, CT, and Michael is a firefighter for Ladder 37 of the FDNY. The couple lives in Brookfield, NY.

Cynthia Dubuque, MAT ’02, serves on Connecticut Attorney General George Jepsen’s executive staff as the director of constituent services in Hartford. She also sits on the board of directors for Connecticut Latina/os Achieving Rights & Opportunities, is the secretary of the Hartford Commission on LGBT Issues, and is a board member of the Gay Lesbian, and Straight Education Network.

Jennifer (Katona) Dunlavey and her husband, Keith, announce the birth of their daughter, Lilianna Michelle, on June 30, 2009. The family lives in Sandy Hook, VA.

Stefanie Garten of Yorktown Heights, NY, is a product manager at Redcats USA in New York City.

Lisa Genello ’02, MPT ’04, is a physical therapist at Anderson Orthopaedic Clinic in Arlington, MA, where she lives.

Travis Gregory wed Jessica Wypasek on Oct. 10, 2010, in Northampton, MA. Travis is employed by Vertex Pharmaceuticals. The couple lives in Boston, MA.

Janet Johnson ’00, MBA ’02, of Terryville, CT, is the founder of Quail Run Ventures at Central Connecticut State University’s Institute of Technology and Business Development. The consulting company helps small businesses control costs by creating a lean, efficient business office.

Nermiina (Orucevic) Krehic ’02, MBA ’05, is a state income tax compliance supervisor with United Technologies. She lives in Orange, CT, with her husband, Ermin, and their three children, Jasmina, Selma and Deen.

Daniel Paladino of Stamford, CT, received a permanent appointment to the Greenwich Police Department to the rank of technician, assigned to the community impact section. He has been an officer with the department for six years.

Alysse Polakowski of Hackettstown, NJ, was promoted to account manager for The Pert Group’s beverage group. She manages client projects including...
PLAN NOW TO COME BACK TO QUINNIPIAK

The Alumni Association invites you, your family and your alumni friends to gather for a big athletics weekend, beautiful autumn weather and peak fall foliage on the Sleeping Giant.

Featured Events

Friday, October 14
- Midnight Madness featuring men’s and women’s basketball and student performing groups

Saturday, October 15
- Distinguished Alumni Awards Brunch
- Homecoming pregame “tailgate barbecue”
- Men’s ice hockey vs. Canisius College
- Greek life reception for alumni and students

Sunday, October 16
- Farewell brunch at Rocky Top Student Center

A complete schedule of events, prices and registration information will be mailed to all alumni by Sept. 1, 2011, or visit www.quinnipiac.edu/QUhomecoming.xml for more information, to register online and to find local hotels.

Book your lodging early, since this is also Parents & Family Weekend at Quinnipiac.
proposal writing, questionnaire design and analysis.

Amy (Tritt) Aguilar ’03, MPT ’05, and her husband, Kevin, announce the birth of their daughter, Claire Marie, on Aug. 14, 2010. Claire was welcomed by her brother, Evan. The family lives in Bellingham, MA.

Andree (Aucoin) Shepard and her husband, Christopher, announce the birth of their daughter, Mackenzie Carley-Anne, on Nov. 8, 2010. She was welcomed by her big brother, Evan. The family lives in Storrs, CT.

Katherine Zogby of Stratford, CT, is a social worker for the state of Connecticut and is an adjunct psychology professor at Quinnipiac.

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Keith Jang is president of KeeClean Management Inc. in Shelton, CT, and is expanding the company's geographical territory by adding California and Georgia in 2011.

Monique Salisbury of Warwick, NY, works with adults with developmental disabilities and autism.

Melissa Soto ’07, ’09 of Watertown, CT, is a registered nurse at Hartford Hospital.

Sara Spino ’07, MPT ’10, wed Andrew Bicknell on Aug. 14, 2010, in Westerly, RI. Gabrielle Pasternak ’07 served as maid of honor and Megan Decesari ’07, MBA ’08, Rebecca Hetterich ’07, MPT ’10 and Ashley (Langley) Tortora ’08 were bridesmaids. Sara is a physical therapist and certified athletic trainer at Foundry Sports Medicine in Providence, RI. The couple lives in West Warwick, RI.

Maxwell Winitz joined WWSB-TV news station in Sarasota, FL, as a reporter and fill-in anchor in December 2010.

Christopher Barnes of Middleboro, MA, recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command in Great Lakes, IL.

Jamie Bates was signed by the American Hockey League to a professional try-out. Jamie joins the San Antonio Rampage from their ECHL affiliate, the Las Vegas Wranglers, where he was the team's leading scorer with 31 points (12 goals, 19 assists) in 23 games.

Elizabeth Connolly, MS ’08, wed David Martell on Oct. 3, 2010. She is an editorial associate at Yale University. The couple lives in Wallingford, CT.

Christian Nielsen of Rhinebeck, NY, took a three-month appointment with the Boston Public Health Commission as a public relations specialist.

Amanda Presland ’08, DPT ’11, and Jacqueline Smith ’08, DPT ’11, presented their research, “Differences in Plantar Pressure in 23 games."

Freshtalk Impact Inc. is a for-profit corporation that provides private label natural and organic food products. The company was acquired by Giant Food Stores of Maryland in 2011.

Amanda Presland ’08, DPT ’11, and Jacqueline Smith ’08, DPT ’11, presented their research, “Differences in Plantar Pressure",

Matthew Shearin, MS ’08, is a production manager for the Eaton Corporation. He lives in The Woodlands, TX.

Kevin Toth and Stephanie Toth were married on Aug. 21, 2010. Kevin is a senior financial analyst at JPMorgan Chase & Co. The couple lives in Philadelphia, PA.

Hillary Anti of Plymouth, MA, is an actuarial analyst for Aetna in Hartford.

Richard Bauer of Hamden is a financial services representative of Barnum Financial Group, an office of MetLife, and was recently awarded the Life Underwriters’ Training Council Fellow designation from the American College.

Jessica Christensen ’09, MAT ’10 is a 9th grade world history teacher at Bethel High School in Bethel, CT. She lives in Beacon Falls, CT.

Lincoln DeMoura wed Kimberly Shanahan on Aug. 6, 2010, in Hampton, NJ. The wedding party included fellow 2009 graduates Matthew Dermody and Kiel Doran. Lincoln is a hospital corpsman in the U.S. Navy stationed at Camp Lejeune in Jacksonville, NC. Kimberly completed her doctor of physical therapy at Quinnipiac.

Jennifer DiMauro, MS ’09, wrote and directed an autobiographical movie, “Get Used to It.” The film was shot in Winsted at her family’s store, John’s Import Deli.

Bryn Doyle joined the Barnum Financial Group as a financial services representative. Bryn lives in Hamden and is a member of Connecticut Partnership for Long Term Care.

Loading Variables Between Elliptical Exercise and Treadmill Walking,” at the American College of Sports Medicine’s annual meeting in Denver, CO, In June. They were accompanied by Juan Garbalosa, clinical associate professor of physical therapy; and Russell Woodman, professor of physical therapy.

Rebecca Hetterich ’07, MPT ’10, is a registered nurse at Hartford Hospital.

Andrew Bicknell on Aug. 14, 2010, in Westerly, RI. The couple lives in Providence, RI. The couple lives in West Warwick, RI.

BOYS OF SUMMER

Alex Birsh ’11, right, and Sal Accardi ’09 teamed to broadcast the New England Collegiate Baseball League (NECBL) All-Stars vs. Team USA Collegiate National Team exhibition contest at Fenway Park on June 27.

Birsh is in his second season as the broadcaster for the Keene Swamp Bats and third in the NECBL. Accardi is also a three-year veteran and is in his first season with the Old Orchard Beach Raging Tide.

Birsh enjoyed a successful senior year at Quinnipiac as he and fellow alumnus Corey Hersch won the Best Student Organization Award for co-creating the Quinnipiac Bobcats Sports Network. Staffed entirely by students, it’s the sole online broadcast network for most Quinnipiac athletics. Accardi wears multiple hats for the Raging Tide, serving as their assistant general manager and broadcaster. “I really felt honored to be selected for this game. Quinnipiac gave me my start and really defines who I am as a broadcaster. I am so glad to see every year that more and more Quinnipiac students make their way to a different NECBL team every summer,” he said.

Quinnipiac is well represented in the NECBL this summer as five broadcasters from the University are handling play-by-play duties for their respective clubs. The others are juniors Kyle Brennan (Newport Gulls) and Luke Mauro (Danbury Westerners); and senior Miles McQuilgan (Mystic Schooners).—Shawn Medeiros, Keene Swamp bats

Anthony Filiaci of Totowa, NJ, is a junior associate producer with CBS News Promotions and Marketing.

Stacy Graham-Hunt, MS ’09, wed Jonathan Davis in May 2009 and recently joined The News-Times team as a multimedia reporter for...
the Greater Danbury area in Connecticut. The couple lives in Hamden.

Alysis (Richardson) Morrissey of Byfield, MA, is a marketing and public relations manager for Major League Lacrosse in Brighton, MA.

Elizabeth Ryan ’09, MAT ’10, is a math teacher at Wethersfield High School in Wethersfield, CT.

Kaitlyn Duffy and her sister, Shannon Duffy, have opened their own business, College Admissions Consultants. They live in Cheshire, CT. They were the recipients of the 2010 President’s Scholarship Award.

Hussetta (Kay) Colello, MAT ’10, is doing independent consulting on the Greater Danbury area in Connecticut. The couple lives in Hamden.

Kevin Doherty of Brewster, NY, is a tax consultant with Deloitte & Touche.

Matthew Andrew of Naugatuck, CT, is a photojournalist for The Record-Journal in Meriden, CT.

IN MEMORIAM

2009
David Casper ’61
Virginia (Long) Ingram ’37
Susan Kammerer ’72
Joseph Looney ’35
Richard I. Weinstein ’56
Judith P. Weyant, MAT ’98
Matthew Woolven, MAT’00

2010
Evelyn (Cruz) Bass ’37
Louis G. Bradanini ’69
Edward F. Budds ’48
Patrick J. Clifford Jr. ’50
Doris L. Currier ’47
Marie (D’Agnese) Darin ’58
Natalie (Miranda) DeLuca ’37
Candice (DeLucia) Goodwin ’69
David R. Griffin ’67
John Hannigan ’48
Grace (Hayden) Illback ’38
Christine M. Konnick ’65, MHS ’89
Linda A. (Zrabkowski) Kotalik ’75
Thomas A. Kozloski, MHS ’79
Marjorie (Cook) Leesman ’35
Edward V. Lipovetz ’49
Eugene P. MacNeil ’47
Cynthia L. Miller ’77
Vincent A. Pacileo Jr. ’48
Gerald A. Parsons ’69
Michael Perillo ’48
Bertha (Perlman) Perkins ’37
Zena (Skilnyk) Phillips ’93
Frank A. Proto ’56
Debra Swartz ’70
Stephen E. Torla ’72

2011
Vincent B. Cappetta ’63
Paul D. Castonguay ’60
John F. Cocheo ’69
William R. Crowther ’62
David G. Drago ’00
Joseph A. Giordano ’57
Jonathan K. Havlick ’65
Eleanor M. Herpich ’35
Ruth (Baier) Illingworth ’38
Edward H. Johns ’39
Leonard R. Kirpas ’59
Thomas A. Love Jr. ’81
Esther (Miller) Morico ’46
Robert J. Morrissey ’40
Patricia (Sullivan) Mostowy ’85
Bernard Nitkin ’46
Thomas J. Orloski ’61
Ruth (Beckwith) Petrillo ’54
Ernest Piazza ’47
Virginia Piccolo ’37
Todd S. Rabin ’92
Anne Marie (Kannenberg) Roden ’87
Alice (Anderson) Sartorelli ’49
Virginia (Bronson) Tilton ’40
Brian C. Vincent ’86
Frank A. Warner Jr. ’63
Robert N. Wolfson ’54

Aurea C. Schoonmaker, a professor of romance languages emerita, died on May 12, 2011. She taught modern languages at Quinnipiac for 43 years. Memorial contributions can be made in her memory to the Office of Development and Alumni Affairs, Quinnipiac University, 275 Mount Carmel Avenue, Hamden, CT 06418.

Patricia Conwell of Deep River, CT, is a registered nurse and the chief operating officer for Medical Oncology and Hematology.

Gina D’Ammassa, MAT ’11, has been hired to teach Spanish at Floral Park Memorial High School on Long Island, NY.

Alfred Jones, MAT ’11, will teach English this fall at Fort Carson High School in Colorado Springs, CO.

Scott Trauner, EDL ’11, is the assistant principal at Hamden High School. He taught English for 11 years before assuming that role.

Kelly Wall, MAT ’11, is an algebra teacher at Pinkerton Academy, Derry, NH.
GOOD TIMES

Alumni connected at a variety of events both on and off campus.

1. Todd Abrams ’92 with wife, Debbi, and their sons at the N.J. Nets alumni reception.

2. At the Quinnipiac Classic Alumni Championship, from left: Robert Kinniburgh, Nick Geskos ’73, Frank Eitler ’72 and Nolan West ’73.

3. & 4. Graduate students, from left, Andrea Marie Viscuno, Rachelyn Provencher and MacKenzie Liptak ’10 at the May New York City networking reception. Also at that reception were, from left, Christopher Hecht ’09, Ben Wald ’11 and Jason Arena ’06.

5. Omolara Layeni ’12 with William Kohlhepp, MHS ’97, associate dean of the School of Health Sciences, at the Physician Assistant alumni reception hosted during a Las Vegas conference.

6. Quinnipiac alumni prepare to march in the 250th New York City St. Patrick’s Day Parade.

7. At the Boston Celtics Game, from left: Christina (Niro) Philibert ’91 and Jeff Philibert ’91 with their children.

8. Michael Quitko, right, head coach of the men’s and women’s tennis teams, with alumni who came back for men’s and women’s tennis alumni day.
One Last Thing

Lacrosse marks 20th reunion

Founding member recalls spirited—but ragtag—beginning

By Bob Clarke ’93

Recently, I had the pleasure of being invited back to Quinnipiac to celebrate 20 years of QU lacrosse. Every time I return to campus, memories rush back: my QU friends, Thursday nights at the Ratt, dorm life, wrestling evergreens on the hill, May Weekends and, of course, the great education.

Outside of meeting my wife, Donnanne, one of my fondest QU memories is being part of the first lacrosse program here.

My most recent trip to campus was triggered by the death of a former classmate, Todd Rabin ’92, who passed away after a battle with cancer. I started thinking about how Todd and I met and when we began that first lacrosse team. Back in the late 80s, a group of students led by Mike Hebert ’90 met to organize a club league on campus. We presented the idea to the athletic department, and then, to everyone’s surprise, President John Lahey stepped in and decided to bypass a club team in favor of initiating a full varsity Division III program in Spring 1991.

Randy Aitkin was hired as the first coach, and our motley bunch came together for the first season 20 years ago. Mike got the ball rolling, but unfortunately, he graduated the spring before the program got started. In a sense, he is the founder of lacrosse at Quinnipiac.

As you could imagine, the first year was rough. There was no recruitment—just a bunch of guys who loved the game and wanted to play. We all gave up our spring break and committed to the team. To the surprise of the athletic department, we actually won two games that year. We had some rough games and even rougher road trips. When we were scheduled to play St. Michael’s in Vermont, a major snowstorm hit as we drove up in the old white vans. Todd Rabin ’92—then a student coach—followed us with the equipment in his own truck. We arrived, as did a few feet of snow, and the game was canceled. We wanted to buy some shovels to clear the field!

I look back fondly at those times, and so did Todd. At the funeral, Todd’s father talked about the Vermont snowstorm trip and how much Todd loved being part of QU lacrosse. It was a chance to get out and play some competitive ball and keep the dream alive.

Obviously, the “varsity team” has now evolved into a successful Division I program. Twenty years ago, none of us could have fathomed the level of play the lacrosse program would achieve. It is an honor to be part of the program’s history and it’s 20th anniversary.

Congratulations and thanks to President Lahey, Athletic Director Jack McDonald, Coach Eric Fekete and all the current and former players for keeping our dream alive.

Photo: Athletic Director Jack McDonald, left, with members of the first lacrosse team during their reunion. Teammates, from left: Jason Levy ’90, MBA ’92; Mike Hebert ’90; Chris Scharf ’93; Joe Chrzeszczianek ’93; Bob Clarke ’93; Jim Biondo ’91; John Richitelli; Scott Zuckerman ’93; and Eric Fekete, current head coach.
Bob Danisch ’70 has spent the greater part of his career making life better for others, working on breakthrough drugs for Genentech in San Francisco. At work his motto was: ‘Work hard, play hard and give back.’

Upon retirement in 2011, Bob thought, ‘What more can I do to help somebody?’ That’s when he informed Quinnipiac that he had included the University in his estate plan. Bob’s generous planning for the future makes him a member of Quinnipiac’s Tower Society.

To learn more about the Tower Society or how you can support the University with a gift through your will or trust, please contact: Steve Greaves, director of gift planning, 203-582-3995 or steven.greaves@quinnipiac.edu.

“Quinnipiac gave me the tools I needed for the rest of my life. I may have been lucky in my career, but I wouldn’t have had that opportunity without a great education. I’d love to see some of my money go to help a college student.”

— BOB DANISCH ’70