Architect of CHANGE
Rubertone reflects on 39 years
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ON THE COVER: Joe Rubertone ’67 stands near the Rocky Top Student Center, which overlooks the TD Bank Sports Center and Long Island Sound. Both York Hill Campus buildings rank among his favorite projects in his 39 years at the helm of the facilities department. Photo: Robert Lisak

LEFT: Displaying their Reunion 2012 shirts, from left: Erin (Gallagher) O’Hara ’02; Jennifer (Wasacz) Palaia ’02, MPT ’04; Tara (Gorski) Silvaggio ’02, MPT ’04; and Allison Poole ’02, MPT ’04. Photo: John Hassett
The Class of 2012 may be entering a tough economy and an uncertain world, but the two speakers at the 81st Undergraduate Commencement ceremonies May 20 encouraged graduates to aim high.

“Dream big, worthy dreams, and don’t get discouraged by rejection,” said Stephen A. Schwarzman, CEO and founder of Blackstone, the world’s largest alternative asset manager. He delivered the address for the College of Arts and Sciences and the School of Business—the first of two ceremonies. Nancy G. Brinker, former U.S. ambassador to Hungary and founder and CEO of Susan G. Komen for the Cure, spoke at the ceremony for the Schools of Communications, Health Sciences and Nursing later that day.

“Difficulties are a sign that you’re on a path of consequence,” said Brinker, who warned graduates that people would tell them their dreams aren’t possible. Quinnipiac awarded 1,410 degrees—the University’s largest graduating class. William E. Strickland Jr., president and CEO of Manchester Bidwell Corp., spoke at the graduate ceremony the Sunday before. That same day, Justice Lubbie Harper Jr. of the Connecticut Supreme Court gave the School of Law address, urging grads to follow their intuition.
National award recognizes Lord’s passion for patients

In May, the American Academy of Physician Assistants honored Cynthia Booth Lord, MHS ’97, with the 2012 Outstanding Physician Assistant of the Year Award. Since the early days of her career as a physician assistant in family practice, Lord, clinical associate professor and director of Quinnipiac’s PA program, has been driven by her passion for serving patients with the greatest need for care and has transferred her empathy for patients to the next generation of PAs.

“I take pride in my ability to help people heal and avoid illness,” said Lord. “As a PA educator, I have an obligation to guide the future of our profession on a path of compassion and advocacy for their patients. I hope this recognition will motivate the next generation of PAs to give their best to their patients.”

Lord is a champion for volunteerism and engages her students in community service activities that illustrate the value of the work PAs do for underserved communities, from fundraising for nonprofits to caring for the homeless, promoting literacy in children and providing medical care for migrant farm workers.

Lord also has worked to improve health care delivery on the national level through her leadership on the AAPA board of directors and the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants Foundation.

“Cindy truly defines what it means to be an educator; she puts her heart and soul into preparing PA students to become the best health care providers possible,” said Carly Arena ’09, MHS ’11.

“I have never met someone so passionate about giving back and helping those who are in need.”

Montage contributors connect at reunion

Current and former contributors to the Montage literary magazine got together for the publication’s 30th anniversary in May, along with Professors Kenneth Cormier, Timothy Dansdill and Len Engel. Alumni attendees included Dan Altano ’06, Charlise Roper ’04, Belinda Russell ’02, Samantha Schlemm ’11 and Charity Stout ’07. Student participants were Emily Keene ’12 and Jessica Poe ’12, editors-in-chief, and Cara Jackson ’12, Morgan Pellecchia ’12 and Julia Olson ’12.

Speakers tout volunteerism and mind-body connection

Nicholas Kristof, a Pulitzer Prize-winning New York Times columnist, encouraged students to embrace an issue that means something to them and work to change the world using that issue as a motivating force.

Kristof visited the Mount Carmel Campus March 1 for a lecture, after which he signed copies of his latest book, “Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide.”

Kristof’s columns shed light on human rights abuses in Asia and Africa and the Darfur conflict.

“We won the lottery of life,” he said, noting the privileges Americans enjoy compared to the rest of the world. “There are obligations that come with incredible good fortune...and I hope you’ll find a cause that really speaks to you.”

On March 28, yoga instructor and author Matthew Sanford discussed the benefits of building a mind-body connection. Sanford was paralyzed from the chest down after a car accident that killed his father and sister. His book, “Waking: A Memoir of Trauma and Transcendence,” spotlights his struggle to overcome his disability using yoga. “I wanted to feel my body again, and after experiencing yoga for the first time, I felt a connection I never had before.” He predicted that the concept of mind-body connection could revolutionize health care.
Nobody goes deeper or paints a more vivid picture of war than ABC’s senior foreign affairs correspondent Martha Raddatz, according to the many colleagues who gathered June 7 to applaud her selection as the 19th recipient of the Fred Friendly First Amendment Award, presented annually by the School of Communications.

In a luncheon ceremony at the Metropolitan Club in New York City, Friendly’s widow, Ruth, called Raddatz “Fred’s kind of journalist. He said a journalist’s job is to explain complicated issues, but you can’t explain them if you don’t understand them,” Friendly said. In the last decade, Raddatz has traveled to Pakistan and Afghanistan dozens of times and is the only broadcast reporter allowed to fly in a combat mission over Afghanistan in an F-15 jet. During the war in Iraq she visited the front lines more than 20 times.

Lee Kamlet, dean of the School of Communications and former head writer for ABC’s “World News Tonight,” called Raddatz “fair, factual and fearless.” But Raddatz is quick to give credit for bravery to the soldiers and the generals who count on her to tell their stories.

Diane Sawyer, anchor of ABC’s “World News,” was among more than 100 guests. “When I have the chance on air to say, ‘Here’s ABC’s Martha Raddatz,’ I know I am throwing to someone who has the facts, who has been to the place we are covering 12 times. Her reports are so crisp, and she grasps immediately the concept of what is happening on the ground,” Sawyer said.

Other guests included former “World News” anchor Charles Gibson; George Stephanopoulos, co-anchor of “Good Morning America”; Barbara Walters, creator and co-host of ABC’s “The View”; and ABC correspondents and anchors Ron Claiborne, David Kerley, Terry Moran and Bob Woodruff.

Raddatz, the author of “The Long Road Home—A Story of War and Family,” senses that Americans are weary of war. “We have divided ourselves into two segments of society: those who have fought and those who have not. People say they support the troops, they hang yellow ribbons and stand at ballgames to honor them, but it does not go much beyond that,” she said.
G.A.M.E. II draws finance leaders

Financial experts at Quinnipiac University’s second annual Global Asset Management Education (G.A.M.E. II) Forum in March were cautiously optimistic that the U.S. is slowly climbing out of what has been called the “Great Recession,” but public perception and consumer confidence will be key.

More than 1,000 students and faculty from 118 universities attended the three-day forum at the Sheraton New York Hotel and Towers. Attendees hailed from schools in 43 countries, including Bentley University, Villanova, University of Hawaii, EDHEC Business School in France, and the University of Toronto, to name a few. The event was co-sponsored by NASDAQ OMX.

Major players from the finance world included Abby Joseph Cohen, senior investment strategist at Goldman Sachs, and Richard Peach, senior vice president of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

Panelists also discussed alternative assets, stock markets and corporate governance. Next year, G.A.M.E. III will take place April 4–6 in New York City.

Media MashUp develops professionals

John Berman, left, CNN anchor and former ABC News correspondent, delivered the keynote address at the School of Communications’ Media MashUp, a two-day event for students to meet and network with 26 professionals in news, public relations and film. The professionals, including 10 QU alumni, talked about jobs in the digital age, the 21st-century newsroom and sports journalism. The event included a career fair.

VOLUNTEERISM BOOMING

Increasing numbers of Quinnipiac students are getting involved with volunteer projects.

At the third annual Big Event in April, more than 1,400 undergraduate students and about 100 graduate students worked on service projects at 93 area sites including painting, landscaping and preparing a meal at a community dining room.

The Big Event is the day college students across the country volunteer in their communities. In addition, 80 alumni worked at sites in Boston, Los Angeles, New York City and Hoboken, N.J., and at Connecticut sites in Bridgeport, New Haven and Rocky Hill. Quinnipiac students also collected money and food to benefit area charities.

More than 670 members of the University community attended the fifth annual Relay for Life, also in April, and raised more than $72,000 for the American Cancer Society. The event included a ceremony honoring people battling cancer, as well as the friends and families who support these survivors.
The Frank H. Netter MD School of Medicine has formed clinical partnership agreements with two additional Connecticut hospitals. Five-year agreements were signed with MidState Medical Center in Meriden and Middlesex Hospital in Middletown. St. Vincent’s Medical Center in Bridgeport is the medical school’s principal clinical partner, and St. Vincent’s physicians are already working with the school’s administrators and faculty on curriculum development.

Students will complete supervised clinical rotations with the hospitals’ physicians, who also will serve as clinical professors at the School of Medicine.

The three hospitals have strong relationships with Quinnipiac through affiliations with the School of Nursing and the School of Health Sciences. In June, Middlesex dedicated one of its floors to Quinnipiac’s nursing students, who will have exclusive use of the area for learning.

Also in June, Quinnipiac formalized partnerships with the Fair Haven School in New Haven and Side by Side Charter School in Norwalk, Conn. The University and the schools will share resources, giving teachers access to professional development programs on campus and Quinnipiac students training in the classroom. The School of Education recently honored 33 students from grades kindergarten through 12 from Side by Side, and the North Haven and Hamden public schools at its Kaleidoscope of Creativity art exhibit. The students donated artwork to hang on the walls of the School of Education on the North Haven Campus for one year, when it will be refreshed with new artwork.

This summer Quinnipiac students traveled around the globe to gain knowledge, explore new cultures and share expertise.

Hillary Haldane, assistant professor of anthropology, took four honors students—Gabriela Gualpa ’15, Aidan Tatar ’14, Jonathan Quick ’14 and Joshua Wood ’15—on a 10-day, cross-cultural immersion trip in the African Kingdom of Morocco in May to learn about the “Democracy Spring.” They studied indigenous people’s rights and ecological issues, among other topics.

That same month, students taking the course, South Africa: From a Tourist to Township Perspective, traveled to South Africa to explore the country’s progress in unifying its ethnically divided communities. They also volunteered in a poor community to replace roofs, make plans for a playground and plant vegetables.

The Albert Schweitzer Institute at Quinnipiac organized trips to Nicaragua and Barbados in May. In Nicaragua, 20 law students helped organize a two-day conference that addressed the rights of people who are gay, indigenous and those who have disabilities.

For the first time, the School of Health Sciences developed a student exchange partnership with University College Dublin in Ireland for diagnostic imaging students. This summer, Dublin students spent time with Quinnipiac faculty on the North Haven Campus, while Quinnipiac students spent six weeks completing their clinical work at St. Vincent’s University Hospital in Dublin.
QUAD QUOTES

What is the best thing that's happened to you at Quinnipiac this year?

“Attending the Quinnipiac vs. Yale men’s hockey game. It just showed me how much school spirit our school has, and it was a lot of fun to be a part of it for the first time.”

—JAMES MIDDLETON ’15, FINANCE

Chelsea Alburger ’13, marketing
“Hiking Sleeping Giant with my twin sister, Jenna. It was an all-around good day and looking over the campus from the top reminded me of how fortunate the two of us are to go here.”

Michael Weiner ’13, biomedical sciences
“Just sitting in the rotunda part of the Rocky Top dining hall and getting to see and talk to everyone. It really makes my day knowing I have a place where I can see all my friends.”

Whitney Hronec ’12, interactive digital design
“Being an orientation leader because it gave me a chance to get a different outlook on school. It gave me friends and a bond that will last forever.”

Chris Aldarelli ’15, business management
“Joining Pi Kappa Phi, because I was able to find the brotherhood and involvement I was looking for. It really helped me find my place at Quinnipiac and become more involved.”

Alea Capello ’15, legal studies
“I was a part of the hospitality crew for the fall concert, and I got to meet Hoodie Allen and 3OH!3. It was really cool to be a part of something exciting on campus.”

Nick Frias ’13, broadcast journalism
“My QU 301 trip to Italy and Spain. I have never been out of the country and it was great to see how other people live. I was able to actually see things I have never dreamed of seeing.”

MCBRIE DISCUSSES LEADERSHIP

Angela Barron McBride, known for her contributions to women’s health and psychiatric nursing, discussed the role of leadership in the profession during a March lecture sponsored by Quinnipiac’s School of Nursing. In 2006, the American Academy of Nursing named McBride a living legend, an honor bestowed to fellows who have been extraordinary role models and who have had a profound influence on the profession. She is a distinguished professor and dean emerita at Indiana University School of Nursing.

Quinnipiac nursing faculty and alumni, as well as Gaylord Hospital’s chief nursing officer, with Angela Barron McBride as she signs books.
Social and environmental factors influence healing

As the Frank H. Netter MD School of Medicine continues its efforts toward accreditation and the October start of student recruitment for a 2013 opening, the school’s administrators continue to hire founding faculty members with expertise in science and medicine. Two of them—Anna-leila Williams and Norbert Herzog—are introduced here and on the facing page.

Williams, an educator, clinical researcher and physician associate, has spent much of her professional life investigating social and behavioral factors that influence health and the delivery of patient care. As an assistant professor of medical sciences, she’s putting that knowledge to use as she helps design the school’s first two years of basic medical sciences curriculum. Medical students will not only learn the science of treating a disease or injury through 360-degree evaluations of case studies, but also learn about the environmental and social factors that play a role in healing.

“We want our students to learn how to care for people holistically, and that means health promotion and disease prevention, as well as illness management,” says Williams. “It also means understanding the impact poverty, racism, low literacy, social isolation, work and family can have on a patient’s well-being. Our students will have the skills to be agents for social justice.”

A physician, for example, could diagnose and treat a child with asthma, but without considering environmental factors, such as exposure to secondhand smoke, pollutants or mold that could trigger an asthma attack, the child will not get better. “If you are not addressing the social and behavioral issues as well, you haven’t finished the job,” she says.

Similarly, physicians need to be aware of their own biases. A study in the Journal of the American Medical Association found that a physician’s religious beliefs influenced when and with whom they discussed end-of-life care.

“It’s important that early on we help students recognize their potential for bias in the way they care for patients,” she says. “With self-awareness, they can overcome their biases and practice medicine competently, respectfully and with compassion.”

The Institute of Medicine of the National Academies has encouraged the addition of socio-behavioral influencers to medical school curricula.

“It’s about improving the effectiveness of physicians,” explains Williams. “It’s about making a difference in someone’s life.”

Williams has taught at Yale and Dartmouth and has researched alternative therapies, palliative and end-of-life care, and the role of family caregivers. She recently was a research fellow in cancer control at Dartmouth. She was the lead author on the paper, “Cancer Family Caregivers: A New Direction for Interventions,” which appeared in the Journal of Palliative Medicine.

She was educated as a physician associate at Yale, where she later received a doctorate in clinical research. She also has a master of public health from Southern Connecticut State University.

Williams, who arrived in 2011, is serving on the University’s diversity committee, the Inclusion, Multiculturalism and Globalization in Education committee, and is an executive committee member of the Center for Interprofessional Healthcare Education at Quinnipiac.

—Alejandra Navarro
Teachable moments

Radio sound bites make research palatable

Public tax dollars fund a great deal of scientific research, but the public doesn’t always hear about the results. Two scientists with a connection to Quinnipiac strive to give us more bang for our bucks.

Professors Norbert K. Herzog and David W. Niesel ’75, are the voices behind “Medical Discovery News,” a two-minute, syndicated radio broadcast and corresponding newspaper column that make breaking scientific news relevant to ordinary people and in language they understand.

Herzog, who holds a doctorate in microbiology, joined Quinnipiac’s Frank H. Netter MD School of Medicine in June as a professor in the Department of Medical Sciences. Previously, he was a faculty member at the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston. Niesel, who has a doctorate in biochemistry, is a professor and chair of the Department of Microbiology and Immunology at UTMB.

Their show is heard on 115 radio stations in the U.S., Mexico, Puerto Rico, Zambia and the United Kingdom, including Quinnipiac’s AM 1220 WQUN, where the segment airs at 6:40 a.m. on Tuesdays. Episodes delve into biomedical questions, such as whether airport full-body scanners pose radiation risks, why people yawn, why sunburns hurt so much, the health benefits of beer, and the link between sleep scarcity and early death. The website, www.medicaldiscoverynews.com, carries transcripts of the shows as well as links to additional information and other features. The shows also are available as podcasts through the website or iTunes.

Herzog, who will teach biochemistry, molecular biology and virology, met Niesel at the University of Texas at Austin in 1980, where they were pursuing research on infectious microbes. Each later joined the faculty at UTMB and decided to channel their passion for promoting public understanding of science by creating “Medical Discovery News” in 2006.

“Part of our responsibility is to educate people about discoveries if we want them to continue to fund science.” —PROFESSOR NORBERT K. HERZOG

Herzog is a fan of Ira Flatow’s “Talk of the Nation: Science Friday” show on NPR, which focuses on science topics in the news. “But we are the only show devoted to biomedical discoveries,” he said.

“David and I choose timely topics, such as the contaminated spinach or peanut butter scares of a few years ago. Or we talk about new vaccines, whatever strikes our fancy,” he said.

Another example is the piece they did on coffee, prompted by a study showing caffeine may heighten brain function by affecting an area deep in the brain responsible for memory. The professors reported that caffeine is able to alter brain chemistry because its molecule interrupts a process behind sleepiness.

“We get sleepy as the day wears on because adenosine builds up,” Herzog said. But caffeine interrupts this cycle by binding to nerve cells, blocking adenosine and stopping the sleep signal. Rather than slow down, the neurons keep going.

“We don’t just tell you that coffee is good for you, but why,” he said.

Niesel, whose BA degree is in biology, mentioned another episode focused on “dual use” research. “The research extends our current knowledge and identifies new ways to treat disease, but it also could be misapplied by some to create a threat to public health.”

The pair cited an example where Dutch and U.S. scientists created an H5N1 flu virus with the potential for human-to-human transmission.

Niesel said, “We support this work as a way to advance our understanding of the virus so a vaccine can be ready when the virus begins its pandemic spread.”

—Janet Waldman
Spring semester grand slammers, from left: Katie Alfiere ’14, Alex Alba ’13, Nikki Barba ’15 and Mina Duffy ’12.
Homer hit parade

Four consecutive home runs in same game tie record  By John Pettit

The Quinnipiac softball team executed a rare triple play against Central Connecticut in 2008 that has become part of Bobcats’ softball lore.

“That happened the year after my freshman season,” senior Mina Duffy said. “I’ve seen the YouTube video. I remember thinking, ‘I don’t know if we can top that?’”

But top it they did versus Northeast Conference rival Sacred Heart on April 1. It was no April Fool’s joke when the Bobcats launched four consecutive home runs, tying an NCAA record in a 12–7 victory over the Pioneers.

Even the veteran coach Fairchild could not believe what she was seeing.

“Honestly, I’d never as a coach been on a field where an opponent hit four straight home runs,” said Quinnipiac coach Germaine Fairchild, who just completed her 12th season. “As it’s unfolding, with each home run that’s going over the fence, you’re just smiling wider and wider, going, ‘Is this really happening? This is really rare.’ You have a sense as a coach that it doesn’t happen very often. You definitely have a sense of how lucky you are to be on the field when it does.”

Fairchild felt the same way back in 2008.

“The triple play was special—by a group of special players,” she said. “We’ve had a couple of pretty rare occurrences in our sport, which is pretty neat.”

How it unfolded

Quinnipiac’s historic bottom of the first inning started with a walk to lead-off batter Christy Cabrera and a single by Jacque Ristow. Junior shortstop Alex Alba then emptied the bases with a towering three-run homer to left field.

“I was just trying to hit the ball hard and score at least one run,” said Alba, unaware at the time of what was about to transpire.

A right fielder, Duffy was next to step into the batter’s box against Sacred Heart starting pitcher Nicole Sidor.

Down 0–2 in the count, Duffy turned on an inside fastball and ripped a line shot over the left-field fence.

Not to be outdone, sophomore designated hitter Katie Alfiere and freshman second baseman Nikki Barba followed with solo homers of their own, both to left field.

“I guess hitting is contagious,” Alfiere said. “I was just trying to hit the ball hard and it went pretty far.”

Barba worked the count full before blasting Quinnipiac into the record books.

“I wasn’t swinging for the fences,” she explained. “Honestly, I thought it was just a fly ball when it left the bat. Then I heard everyone yelling. I was flying around the bases and everyone was waiting to greet me. I remember I was smiling the whole time. It was pretty cool. I’ve never seen anything like that before in all of my softball career.”

Even the veteran coach Fairchild could not believe what she was seeing.

“After the fourth one, I remember turning to a fan who was outside the fence by the third-base box and saying, ‘That’s got to be some kind of record,’” she recalled.

It was. Only Portland State, Illinois State and the University of Texas-San Antonio have hit four consecutive homers in a game, according to NCAA records.

For some perspective, just seven teams in Major League Baseball have accomplished the feat, including the Boston Red Sox (Manny Ramirez, J.D. Drew, Mike Lowell and Jason Veritek) against the Yankees in 2007.

“I think the four home runs would rank pretty high up there,” Duffy said when asked where April 1 stands in Quinnipiac softball history. “If it’s not No. 1, it’s in the top two with the triple play. It will definitely be a highlight of my college career. Now, I can watch the video of us hitting four homers.”

All the more sweet

Duffy said the fact that the long balls came against Sacred Heart made it all the more sweet.

The Bobcats and Pioneers were to meet in the 2011 NEC Tournament Championship, but the contest was canceled because of rain. At the time, Quinnipiac was 2–1 in the double-elimination tournament and Sacred Heart was 2–0.

Because of unplayable field conditions, the NEC gave the league title—and an NCAA Tournament berth—to the Pioneers.

“Coming into the (April 1) doubleheader, we had a little bone to pick with Sacred Heart,” Fairchild said. “When the championship game last year got rained out, they got to go to the NCAAs and we didn’t. The players wanted to make a statement in that doubleheader.”

Quinnipiac, which won Game 2 by a score of 5–4, hit a total of seven home runs on that Sunday afternoon, including two by Duffy and Barba.

“After the doubleheader, I stayed up all night watching SportsCenter, hoping we would make it,” Duffy said.

The four-home run video was not part of ESPN’s top plays but, like the triple play, it is on YouTube and has also become part of Quinnipiac softball lore.

“Three home runs was something that I felt extra lucky to have been on the field for,” Fairchild said. “I think four straight home runs is even more unique. It was a memorable inning, game and day.”

To watch a video of the home runs, visit www.youtube.com/watch?v=q0M9c9KQZMI
Joe Rubertone atop the TD Bank Sports Center, one of the many building projects he’s been involved in. Clockwise are photos of the Arnold Bernhard Library, Rocky Top Student Center and lounge area on the North Haven Campus.
Joe Rubertone ’67 maneuvers the golf cart up Bobcat Way, past the majestic Bobcat sculpture, pointing out each Mount Carmel Campus building erected during his 39-year tenure in facilities, 31 at the helm.

This street was called Dorm Road for most of his time at Quinnipiac, and the statue is new since 2008. It’s identical to the one that stands guard over the TD Bank Sports Center on the York Hill Campus, also built with Rubertone’s hefty input.

Since he earned his bachelor’s in business administration, he’s witnessed Quinnipiac’s transition from college to university; Division II to Division I, Braves to Bobcats, one campus to three, and most significantly, small regional school to a university that has achieved national prominence for academic excellence and three campuses that rival the most attractive universities in the country.

“See over there,” he says, pointing to a brick complex. “Those dorms used to be called F & G back in the ’70s—they are now called The Hill.” Rubertone has had a hand, and sometimes two, in every building project since 1973. This trip down “memory lane” was prompted by Rubertone’s decision to retire in June as associate vice president for facilities administration.

Staff and administrators wave as we motor by. President John L. Lahey pulls out of a parking spot behind Student Health Services, rolls down his window and asks, “How’s that Irish museum coming along?” Rubertone smiles and nods as he provides a brief progress report on the Whitney Avenue museum that will house Quinnipiac’s collection of art and sculpture relating to Ireland’s Great Hunger.

Custodian Stanley Zilinski gives a shout-out from a second-floor window inside the Judge Phillip Troup residence hall. “Hey Joe, it’s hot up here today.”

“We’ll get you a bikini,” Rubertone promises. Zilinski chuckles.

We chug along until Rubertone brakes to retrieve a lacrosse ball he spots in one catch basin outside the Bobcat Den; a baseball is resting in another grate 40 yards up the road. “These will end up in the storm system pipes,” he warns.

Entering the quad between the Arnold Bernhard Library and the Carl Hansen Student Center, Joe and I pull onto the lush grass as the library tower’s carillon chimes with the strains of QU’s alma mater.

“The song plays every day at noon, and most people don’t even recognize it,” he says.

Gazing at the 94-foot clock tower that is the centerpiece of the Bernhard library’s front entrance, Rubertone is reminded of a funny story. “In 1987 or ’88, I ran into John Lahey coming out of the old library around 9:30 a.m. He nodded up toward the timepiece, which read 7 o’clock, and said, ‘Rubertone, your clock is wrong; how do you fix that? Do you get a ladder up there, a tall pole, or what?’” Rubertone relates.

“I said, ‘No, John, we wait until 7 tonight and turn it back on.’”


Centerbrook Architects, which designed most of the buildings on all three campuses, suggested a more timeless look for the new tower when the library was redone in 2000. Some alumni wax nostalgic
about the former, rocket-shaped tower, the tip of which Rubertone kept for a souvenir.

The front steps of the library serve as the backdrop for Undergraduate Commencement. This past May, as Lahey and Rubertone collaborated on a sound check at the podium before the morning ceremony—Rubertone’s last—Lahey nodded toward his facilities chief and said, “There’s a lot of knowledge in that head of his.”

What will Lahey miss most about Rubertone? “Everything,” he replies.

**SPORTS CENTER MEMORABLE**

Rubertone’s department gets the credit for the impeccable landscaping that also is becoming a trademark of the North Haven Campus, where the Frank H. Netter MD School of Medicine is under construction, as well as on York Hill, with its wind turbines, Rocky Top Student Center, Crescent Residence Hall and sports complex.

Is Rubertone’s own Wallingford, Conn., lawn as nice? “Yes,” he affirms, smiling. The former assistant director of parks and recreation for the town of Hamden is known for his green thumb.

Some York Hill buildings seem to rise from the mountaintop as one travels the Route 40 Connector off I-91. “My kids call it the Emerald City,” says Rubertone. He handed over his keys to the city to Sal Filardi, former associate vice chancellor for administrative and fiscal services at the University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth. Here, he will serve as vice president for facilities and capital planning.

At a University-wide reception in May honoring employees for service, Rich Ferguson, senior vice president for administration, stated that it would be difficult to find a building Rubertone has not erected or altered in some way—some 45 among the three campuses.

Rubertone is most proud of the TD Bank Sports Center (dedicated in 2007), with separate hockey and basketball arenas. He and his wife, Marguerite, are season ticket holders to the men’s hockey games. Strolling through the hockey arena, he points out their seats in section 112, row 10. There was a huge learning curve as facilities workers learned to operate the Zamboni vehicles. “It’s not just a big ice cube, but a living, breathing thing we maintain,” he explains.

He still gets a thrill watching several thousand people enjoy an athletic contest, “some of whom have never set foot on our other campuses.” He also relishes visitors’ gasps of astonishment as they enter the quad by the School of Business and take in the grounds. And when he spies students catching some rays on a blanket or relaxing in the library’s leather chairs, he knows he’s doing his job.

His other favorites include the School of Law (1995); the Arnold Bernhard Library (2000); and Rocky Top Student Center (2011), which he labels his most stressful project because of contractor delays.

Rubertone has what he calls sweat equity in all three campuses. Besides dealing with public officials on zoning and wetlands issues, he was involved in negotiating and purchasing all 15 parcels that comprise York Hill. He also executed the real estate transactions for the 50 Hamden houses acquired by the University. A lot of his job is built on relationships with those officials and contractors. “We have a good relationship with Hamden and North Haven, but I wouldn’t be honest if I didn’t say there were bumps in the road,” Rubertone says.

His first building project was the Complex (Sahlin, Founder’s and Bakke halls), in 1981. Richard Terry was president then, and facilities was working on roof replacement, dining hall renovations and other small projects. “And then John Lahey arrived in March of 1987, looked at the list of projects and said, ‘Build that one,’ which now is known as the Echlin Center, finished in 1989. The idea was to bring the premier health care programs at the time—occupational therapy and physical therapy—back on campus from Sherman Avenue.”

According to Rubertone, it’s been nonstop ever since.

The Lender School of Business Center and its famous dome was built in 1993. “It was important to the architect and to us not to block the view of the mountain from the quad…just the parking lot,” he says.

During spring/summer 1995, the University was simultaneously building the School of Law Center and creating the Hilltop parking lot. “We were managing road construction on Mount Carmel and Whitney, and we’d just finished the second phase of the Commons, not to mention we were hosting the Special Olympics and moving and cleaning 350,000 law books from the University of Bridgeport,” he recalls.

A growing student body meant more beds were needed. The Ledges went up in 1998, followed by Mountainview in 2002.

About 25 to 30 people worked in facilities when Rubertone assumed command of the department in 1981. Today there are more managers than there were employees then. Some 147 custodians, groundskeepers, mechanics, electricians, plumbers, HVAC workers and carpenters maintain the University.

While there are aspects of the job Rubertone will remember fondly, he won’t miss dealing with snow removal, parking issues and fall semester deadlines.

He describes the opening of the School of Health Sciences in North Haven in August 2010 as “a real photo finish.” “But we’ve had many of those. I always felt like a juggler with balls in the air that were all going to fall on Aug. 15,” he says.

See Joe describe his favorite building projects at www.quinnipiac.edu/rubertone

“We have aggressive construction schedules, and I sweat on every one of them. Construction is a dynamic, complex process, and things go wrong.” —JOE RUBERTONE ’67
“We have aggressive construction schedules, and I sweat on every one of them. Construction is a dynamic, complex process, and things go wrong,” he notes.

On cue, we enter the contemporary, lodge-like Rocky Top Student Center, which opened a year late because a subcontractor was unable to deliver the glue-laminated wood beams needed to support the unique structure. “From the beginning, I knew this would be a signature building,” he says, from the metal bobcat silhouettes that line the light fixtures, to the impressive curved stairwell in the center.

The decision to build a second campus complicated Rubertone’s job in 2005, but also made it more exciting. “We moved 450,000 yards of earth and rock to construct the road and arena—it was the biggest project Quinnipiac had ever undertaken, only to be succeeded by the Crescent residence hall in phases (2008–11), the parking garage for 2,000 cars (2008) and Rocky Top (2011).”

At the same time the York Hill Campus was rising, the University acquired the North Haven Campus from Anthem BlueCross BlueShield in September 2007.

“I was multitasking before the term was invented,” Rubertone quips.

BEGINNING OF THE END

Rubertone has worked every Commencement for 39 years. This year’s was especially poignant. His youngest child, Meaghan, graduated from his alma mater with a degree in sociology, and he was able to watch with the rest of the proud parents instead of working the entire event. She followed not only in Dad’s footsteps but in those of her brother, Christopher, MBA ’09, and sister Maris ’08, MAT ’09. Another brother, Joseph Jr., graduated from Bentley University in 2001.

Looking out on the sea of white chairs as traditional Paul Simon tunes waft from the speakers, Rubertone says, “It’s amazing the sheer amount of work it takes by many people to make it run as smoothly and professionally as it does, from setting up chairs and tents to landscaping, programs, robing of faculty…the organization is massive.”

Much can go wrong. “Parking and traffic issues, not enough chairs or too many chairs for ceremony participants, chairs collapsing, lost children, sick students, sick guests, grads missing caps and gowns, beach balls and silly string,” Rubertone recites. “It’s always hectic and always rewarding.”

The majority of the operational responsibilities for the four Commencements Quinnipiac stages have fallen to Keith Woodward ’88, MBA ’92, associate vice president of facilities operations. This year, the undergraduate ceremony was split into two, reflecting the growth of the student body. 1,400 degrees were awarded.

Maureen Chalmers has served as an interpreter for the hearing impaired at QU’s ceremonies for many years. She recalls watching Rubertone in action and thinking that he was a man of unquestionable competence. “I didn’t know his name, but you could tell he was in charge,” she says.

She is always impressed by the sense of teamwork. “Nothing is above or below anybody here,” she says as Rubertone procures a chair for her and places it in the shade.

Woodward has worked with Rubertone for 23 years. He will miss Rubertone’s contagious passion for Quinnipiac and the early-morning and late-night emergencies where they collaborated on solutions.

“Our employees respect Joe because he has been in the trenches with us. Whether it’s clean-out day, a water pipe break, a snow storm or an electrical outage, people see Joe not always playing the role of boss, but being supportive of the situation,” he says.

The facilities department does not always have a major role on other campuses, according to Woodward. “I have given many tours to our counterparts in the New England area and you see the same look on their face—disbelief and envy. That’s a result of the overall philosophy that Joe has instilled in us. We aren’t just employees, we are owners, and that sense of ownership from the leader permeates to even the part-time employee who works two days a week,” Woodward adds.

There was no slacking off for Rubertone in his final weeks. Besides overseeing the construction work on the Netter School of Medicine, he focused on the Hansen Student Center renovations. The latter building opens this fall and features a gathering room with fireplace similar to the one in the Rocky Top Student Center, and redesigned spaces for student media, clubs and Greek organizations.

This summer, he’ll finish up a few small projects and consult on Ireland’s Great Hunger Museum taking shape on Whitney Avenue “without being involved in the day-to-day fray.” A Sept. 28 opening is planned. His successor’s challenge will be to complete the medical school building for a Fall 2013 opening.

Over the years, Rubertone has heard facilities directors complain they did not have a seat at the table when decisions were made. “But here, I always had my turn at bat,” he reflects.

Sometimes I look around and think, ‘Wow, I don’t believe what we’ve done.’ This is my life’s work.”

Rubertone adds his name to the last beam of the TD Bank Sports Center before it was hoisted into place at the topping-off ceremony in January 2006.
Grads wedged style into pomp & circumstance

As we watched almost 2,300 law, graduate and undergraduate students take the next step in their lives during four Commencement ceremonies May 13 and 20, we couldn’t help but notice the colorful shoes they chose to pair with their basic black gowns.

The high-heeled wedge in a variety of prints, colors and textures was the most popular footwear of choice for women. Men sported everything from formal lace-up leather shoes to flip-flops, with a sprinkling of sneakers. Some are shown above.
I lunged for my phone to take the call I’d been waiting for. It was my classmate, Chris.

“Hey... Do you want the good news or the bad news?” Chris asked.

“Umm, the good news,” I said, hopping off my bed in the Crescent residence hall on the York Hill Campus. “Did they call?”

“Yeah... We won.”

“Seriously? What’s the bad news?”

“They said they really like the idea and to buckle up for the craziest 10 weeks of our lives,” he said.

On that afternoon back in February, our idea—a website named Snippet—crossed the threshold from fantasy to reality. What we had “won” was $25,000 in state funding to start our business, which offers photographers, web designers and others a place to display a portfolio of video clips, photos and other professional media. Site members can network with colleagues and search for jobs posted by prospective employers. In exchange for Snippet hosting their work, they pay a monthly fee from $3.99 to $11.99.

Besides myself and Chris, three other students are involved in the business we created as part of a course we took this past spring—Media Innovation Collaborative, or the MIC Project. Students formed teams and created plans for multiplatform, digital businesses that could be accessed via computers, smartphones and tablets.

The objective was to have a plan good enough to guarantee our team a spot in the inter-class competition in May. I was the only junior on the team, working with seniors Jordan Brickman, Michael Ferris, Robert Goetze and Chris Thompson.

Professors David Tomczyk, management, and Brett Orzechowski, journalism, teach the class each semester and also award $2,000 to the first-place team and $500 to an “audience favorite.” The prize money must go toward the businesses.

“We give the money ourselves because we believe so much in our students,” Orzechowski said.

About two weeks into class, the professors told all of us about an off-campus program called the TechStart Fund, sponsored by Connecticut Innovations. The program provides capital for entrepreneurs and early-stage technology companies to explore whether their concepts are viable. The program culminates with pitches to would-be investors at the end of a 10-week seminar held three days a week at Science Park in New Haven.

After creating a video about Snippet, we were thrilled to be among the eight teams chosen from the 20 that had applied. We quickly learned that a real-life business would take real-life time management. We juggled school, weekly lectures, internships and other course work.

Chris called it a “class project on steroids.” Robert said balancing school and starting a company has been his biggest challenge to date. “But, I get to graduate with not only a degree, but a company that I can call my own,” he said.

While many students spent spring break in March on a beach, Michael and I opened a checking account and filed for LLC status for our business. May’s inter-class competition gave us the chance to practice our pitch. We didn't win, but got valuable feedback from the judges to use in our TechStart pitch May 18. That also went well, and afterward, we networked with potential investors, some of whom showed interest in Snippet. Time will tell.

This class was different from most because instead of professors telling us how others built their businesses, we actually built one. Our mistakes became lessons as we found new ways to define success.

Working on snippetcreative.com are, clockwise from left: Erica Siciliano ’13, Jordan Brickman ’12, Chris Thompson ’12, Michael Ferris ’12 and Robert Goetze ’12.
Suzanne Duran-Crelin observes a coaching exercise at MicroSociety School in New Haven, where she is the principal.
When Suzanne Duran-Crelin, EDL ’10, began teaching in 1990, she was learning as much as she was teaching. In her first position, at Rippowam High School in Stamford, Conn., she not only taught English classes, but also was expected to teach media studies in the school’s television studio—something she had never done, but she learned quickly.

When she moved to an alternative high school in the same city, her students were academically struggling and dealing with personal problems that were nothing like the experiences of students at the affluent Greenwich High School where she completed her student teaching. “My student teaching did not prepare me for that,” explains Duran-Crelin, who received her master’s degree from Columbia University’s Teachers College and in 2010, a sixth-year diploma from Quinnipiac. “I had a great principal who was a visionary. She helped us come together as a team to figure out how we were going to move these students forward.”

Duran-Crelin received constant feedback from her principal on how to improve and set expectations for the students. “If someone evaluated me based on the standardized test scores of my alternative students in my first two years, I wouldn’t be here today,” says Duran-Crelin, who is now principal of MicroSociety School, an interdistrict magnet school in New Haven. She evaluates and guides teachers at her school, which has a diverse population of pre-kindergarten to eighth-grade students from several area cities and towns. She understands the expectations some teachers face.

“When I was teaching at the alternative high school, no one ever said to me, ‘Wow this kid you have in your classroom can’t read and he’s a 10th-grader, but I want him to be proficient on this 10th-grade reading exam.’ Nobody said that to me because that would be unrealistic,” she explains.

“When you have standardized tests that are generalized to an entire state or region of the country, there are going to be students for whom that test is not even a reach,” says Duran-Crelin.

And yet, as the nation pushes to improve student achievement, raising standardized test scores and meeting academic proficiency levels are playing a bigger role in how teachers are evaluated—and whether or not they keep their jobs.

Today, educators at local, state and national levels are searching for that magic formula that can weed out weak teachers and nurture the ones who make learning happen. The situation is particularly urgent in Connecticut, where the achievement gap between high and low performing students is the largest in the nation, according to the National Assessment of Educational Progress tests in math and reading. Few people deny the need to rethink teacher evaluations, but many educators are concerned about what will be expected of teachers and if it will be fair and realistic.
“This has always been a challenge in education: defining what is good teaching,” says Gary Alger, interim dean at the Quinnipiac School of Education. “There are clearly some things about the teaching profession that we can observe and record, but there are these other variables that we know are related to effective teaching that we cannot record, such as your belief as a teacher that you can make a difference. That’s very fundamental to teaching.”

Good teachers also should be able to manage the classroom, prepare creative lessons and advance students academically (despite their varying levels of abilities), and have a passion for the profession.

In May, after heated debates, Connecticut passed an education reform law that will, among other changes, create new guidelines for teacher evaluations and allow the state to opt out of No Child Left Behind requirements. This law mirrors education reform measures in other states, which were spurred by President Barack Obama’s Race to the Top initiative. Connecticut’s law intends to more clearly define the elements required for a teacher to gain or retain tenure.

The proposed teacher evaluation system responds to the concerns raised in the 2009 report by The New Teacher Project, a national nonprofit dedicated to education equality. That report said evaluation systems need to increase consistency, focus more on student learning, create distinct categories for rating teachers, improve feedback for teachers and measure results.

Up to 10 school districts will use the new guidelines next year before they are rolled out to the entire state. The University of Connecticut’s Neag School of Education will evaluate the success of the new evaluation system. The new state law is based on teacher “effectiveness.” In the past, teachers who did their job and followed policy—presented lessons, administered tests, and had limited absences—would stay employed. Today, teachers also are expected to demonstrate their effectiveness with student academic growth or receive a low ranking on an evaluation. Student learning, once only aligned with professional development, is now tied to job security.

“This is a big, bold move,” Alger explains. And a necessary move, educators say, given the pitfalls of the existing teacher evaluation systems.

Current evaluations

“You have a system that has more negative consequences for terminating a teacher than positive,” says Alger. “And the major negative consequences are length of time and the cost.”

Some estimates put the cost of firing a teacher at about $200,000, which includes funding administrative leave, benefits, attorney fees and hearing officer fees. Beyond the monetary cost, the lengthy, public process of dismissing a teacher also can cause a rift in the community as people side with either the teacher or the administration. The new Connecticut law shortens the length of that process (the maximum time from notice to termination will be reduced from 125 to 85 days), which is expected to save money. New evaluations will provide evidence of a teacher’s performance.

The specifics of Connecticut’s plan are being developed by the Performance Evaluation Advisory Council, which consists of educators, community members and parents. According to the law, teacher evaluations would be broken down into four areas: 45 percent based on student achievement, including standardized test scores; 40 percent on observations of teaching performance; 5 percent on student and parent contributions; and 10 percent on professional activities. Low scores would put a teacher on an improvement plan and could lead to termination.

“The devil is in the details,” says Alger. “Can we, in a reliable and valid way, consistently across all districts, fairly measure the degree of your effectiveness? That’s what these percentages are all about.”

Building relationships

The New Haven School District, where Duran-Crelin works, was one of the first in the state to implement its own revised teacher evaluation system beginning in 2010. In New Haven, after the first year of the revised evaluation system, of the 62 teachers who landed in the “needs improvement” category, 34 did not return—about 2 percent of the district.

At MicroSociety, teachers have an initial goal-setting conference with Duran-Crelin; a mid-year conference; and an end-of-the-year conference. In between, the teachers have administrative observations, coaching and mid-year goal adjustments based on the data they collect from students, Duran-Crelin explains. On a daily basis, teachers set learning objectives and goals, create activities to engage the students, and then reflect on the success and weaknesses of the lessons as they plan for the next day.

“They understand that my goal is to build them up to be the best teachers they can be and to use all of the resources available to us to help them if they are struggling,” says Duran-Crelin. Working one-on-one with her staff members, she can help some realize that teaching might not be their ideal profession without going through a formal dismissal process.

“Through our relationship and the conversations we’re having, I hope that person comes to realize they are doing themselves a disservice, and they’re doing the children a disservice,” she says. “You have gifts, but this might not be what you were meant to do.”

Making time for feedback

Good evaluations take time. The onus is on the school leadership to make sure evaluations are done in a timely manner. “What is difficult is finding the time and resources to make sure that happens,” Duran-Crelin says.

It’s not surprising that occasionally weak teachers get by unnoticed. In some schools in the state, the principal is responsible for the evaluations of more than 50 people.

“I don’t know of any business model that has one supervisor who is responsible for doing performance reviews on 50 people,” Alger says. “It just isn’t done. So there’s a manpower issue.”

Good feedback makes teachers better, says Eric Conrad, a fifth-grade teacher at Orchard Hills School in Milford, Conn. Conrad said he gained a strong foundation from administrators he had as a young teacher.

“Administrators are a great resource for teachers. Today, they have less and less time in that lead teacher role, and unfortunately, the evaluation process is suffering because of that,” says Conrad, who also teaches several courses, including Learning and Teaching in the Elementary Classroom, at Quinnipiac’s School of Education.
He also notes that evaluations can be subjective. “We always say tests are a snapshot of students on that one day at that moment,” Conrad explains. “It’s the same thing with teacher evaluations. There are multiple factors that can impact the degree of success of a lesson. I have seen exceptional teachers obsess over poor evaluations. In contrast, I’ve witnessed subpar teachers pull off outstanding lessons because they’ve painstakingly prepared for the specific evaluation lesson.”

That’s why it’s so important for evaluators to know their staff and have the time to visit periodically, he says.

Lisa Miller, an English teacher at Sheehan High School in Wallingford, Conn., was concerned to hear that her department chair will no longer be giving formal evaluations, now that her district also has implemented a revised teacher evaluation system.

Miller says her department chair knows the daily challenges she faces in the classroom. With such specific goals and standardized testing becoming such a big part of evaluations, she also wonders if these reforms will end the flexibility she now enjoys of selecting material that will resonate with her students.

“You get a feel for the ebb and flow of each class,” says Miller, who also teaches English Methods at Quinnipiac’s School of Education, which is taken before students begin student teaching. “You’ll pick something because you know it will benefit the class at that time. It sounds like that piece is being sacrificed. I’m hoping that’s not the case, but I suspect it is. From an English teacher’s standpoint, that’s just a huge travesty.”

Educators also wonder what standards will be applied to teachers of subjects not in the Connecticut Mastery Tests or the Connecticut Academic Performance Test. In Tennessee, which has already begun to use its revised teacher evaluation system, physical education teachers have reported having to devise projects that tie math into their classes.

Alger says he would rather see a higher percentage of a new teacher’s evaluation be based on the class observation than on student achievement. He notes that young students do not take tests as well as older students who have experience with exams—but it may not be because they don’t know the material.

Standardized tests themselves are controversial and have been criticized by people who doubt their ability to accurately and fairly measure knowledge, and have become a sticking point in teacher evaluations also.

“The teacher whose students have proficiency or for whom that test was a cinch, is that a better teacher than the one who had the group of students for whom that test was very challenging or far out of their reach? How do you standardize something in a field where you have so many factors?” asks Duran-Crelin.

Districts will use student growth models, which would take into consideration students’ economic background (free-lunch eligibility), if they are in special education, and other characteristics that affect achievement. Educators are eager to see which characteristics are used in the state’s growth models. Connecticut has new standardized tests in the works. Duran-Crelin would like to see progress measured by where the students begin and not necessarily by grade level.

“If I have a teacher who moves students two or three grade levels in reading or math, that’s tremendous,” Duran-Crelin says, “even if it’s not where they need to be, according to the state.”

“It takes a certain set of skills and resilience to work where there’s a lot of challenges,” she explains. “You have to have a passion. You have to love the kids you’re serving. You have to be a person dedicated to your craft. What I’m hoping is that there are enough factors and enough different measures [in new teacher evaluations] to come up with a true picture of a teacher.”
On Nov. 10, Quinnipiac will induct the following 10 individuals and two teams into its Athletic Hall of Fame. An induction ceremony and reception will take place at 4 p.m. at the TD Bank Sports Center on the York Hill Campus. The cost is $25 for adults and $10 for children, age 12 and under, and includes a 7 p.m. men’s ice hockey game vs. Cornell. Register at www.quinnipiac.edu/homecoming or call 203-582-8610 for more information.

The Quinnipiac University Athletic Hall of Fame was established in 1971 to honor student-athletes, coaches, athletic administrators and friends who have made outstanding contributions to Quinnipiac University intercollegiate athletics.

Nate Pondexter ’01
Men’s Basketball
One of the most prolific scorers in Quinnipiac’s history, Nate Pondexter was the first Quinnipiac men’s basketball player to earn All-Conference honors in the University’s Division I era. He was a two-time All-Northeast Conference First Team selection for the 1998–99 and 1999–2000 seasons. Pondexter totaled 837 points in 45 career games for the highest per game average (18.6) at the time of his graduation. A solid all-around player, Pondexter also totaled 425 rebounds for a 7.7 average as well as 295 assists for a 5.6 per game average. In 2000, he was a three-time Northeast Conference Player of the Week before being named to the New England Division I Senior All-Star Team.

Megan Matthews ’02, MBA ’04
Women’s Lacrosse
Megan Matthews was the first Quinnipiac women’s lacrosse player to be chosen for the All-Northeast Conference, earning the honor in 2002 and again in 2003. She finished her career as the all-time leader in wins (28), saves (862) and save percentage (.586), while also posting the fourth highest goals-against average (10.33) in Quinnipiac women’s lacrosse history. She holds the program’s freshman records for saves (221), save percentage (.597) and single-season saves (224). In 1999, she had the seventh highest number of saves among all NCAA Division I women’s lacrosse goalies, while in 2001, she ranked 10th nationally in save percentage (.588).

Joe Zangari ’00
Baseball
Joe Zangari was Quinnipiac baseball’s first-ever All-Northeast Conference selection, earning First Team honors in 1998. That same season, he also was named to the All-New England Second Team. Quinnipiac’s Division I leader in home runs (39), average (.368), runs scored (144) and runs batted in (143), Zangari also graduated with the most career hits (196) in the Division I era and is one of six players in Quinnipiac history to record 40 steals in a single season. His 16 home runs and 50 RBI in 1999 are the most in a single season in the Division I era and the second most all-time. On April 1, 2000, Zangari became Quinnipiac’s all-time home run leader when he hit his 35th dinger against Mount St. Mary’s.

Everson Maciel ’04, MBA ’07
Men’s Soccer
The first-ever Quinnipiac men’s soccer player to be selected for the All-Northeast Conference, Everson Maciel earned First Team honors in 2000. That same season, he led the team with 36 points, on the strength of 13 goals and 10 assists. Also that season, he was named to the All-NSCAA/Adidas All-New England Second Team. In 2002, he was named the Northeast Conference Player of the Year, as well as the Quinnipiac Male Athlete of the Year, after leading the NEC in goals (17) and points (48), and finishing third nationally in goals per game (1.04) and sixth in points per game (2.38).

Joe Baglio ’02, MBA ’03
Men’s Lacrosse
One of the great offensive players in Quinnipiac men’s lacrosse history, Joe Baglio finished his career as the program’s leader in points (203) and assists (63) while ranking second to his twin brother, Mike, in career goals (140). The program’s first All-Conference selection at the Division I level, he was named the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) Rookie of the Year while also earning First Team honors in 1999. In 2001, he earned All-New England honorable mention after being named the MAAC Player of the Year and the Quinnipiac Male Athlete of the Year. He also holds the single-season record for points (78) and ground balls (112), while also scoring the second most goals (49) in one season.

Mike Baglio ’02, MBA ’03
Men’s Lacrosse
Like his twin brother, Mike Baglio also had a stellar career, finishing as the program’s leader in career goals (144), and finishing second to his brother, Joe, in career points (183). He also ranked fifth in assists (43) and 10th in ground balls (130). In 2001, he scored 46 goals and 60 points, the third highest career totals in their respective categories, while also hauling in 80 ground balls. In 2001, the dynamic duo led Quinnipiac to its best regular-season finish in program history. Coming off a 14–2 season that saw the brothers finish first and second on the Bobcats roster in goals, assists and points, both were picked as 2002 InsideLacrosse.com Preseason All-Americans.
Jessica (Uccello) Asadourian ’00
Women’s Tennis
Jessica Uccello finished her career at Quinnipiac as the all-time leader in wins (159) for the women’s tennis team. As a freshman in 1996, she set program records in wins for both singles (21) and doubles (18) before being named the Northeast-10 Conference Freshman and Player of the Year. In 1998, she became Quinnipiac’s first-ever All-Northeast Conference selection, with a Second Team honor. A three-time Quinnipiac Class Scholar Athlete, she also earned Northeast Conference Women’s Tennis Scholar Athlete of the Year honors in 1999 and 2000.

Kim Misiaszek ’01, MPT ’03
Women’s Basketball
Kim Misiaszek was the second player in Quinnipiac women’s basketball history to earn All-Northeast Conference honors, landing on the Second Team for the 2000–01 season. The career leader in blocked shots, she swatted 149 shots in 82 games for a 1.8 per game average. One of two players in Quinnipiac history and the only one at the Division I level to lead the program in rebounding in each of her four years, she currently ranks fifth with 827 rebounds while also ranking sixth all-time with 1,417 points.

Rand Pecknold
Head Coach, Men’s Ice Hockey
The winningest coach in men’s ice hockey history, Rand Pecknold has amassed an impressive 327 career wins in his 628 games (.528) behind the Bobcats’ bench. He is one of four coaches in Quinnipiac history with 300 career wins. In 2011–12, he led Quinnipiac to its 16th consecutive non-losing season. In 2008, Quinnipiac achieved its highest national ranking in program history when the Bobcats ascended to the No. 4 slot in the USCHO.com and the USA Today/USA Hockey Magazine Division I polls. In 2005, Pecknold was named the Atlantic Hockey Coach of the Year. In 2002, he guided Quinnipiac to the MAAC Hockey Championship, and to its only NCAA Tournament appearance in program history. For his career, he has coached 23 All-League selections, 12 All-Rookie Team selections, five league Players of the Year, four All-Americans and one Hobey Baker Memorial Award Finalist, in addition to 150 All-Academic student-athletes.

Becca Main
Head Coach, Field Hockey
Becca Main is the first and only field hockey coach in Quinnipiac history. She also started the Quinnipiac women’s lacrosse program. In 1998, she became the first Quinnipiac head coach to record a victory at the Division I level and the first to lead a team to the postseason. In 17 seasons, Main has accumulated 136 wins, including 120 at the Division I level and a 78–36 record in Northeast Conference play. A four-time Coach of the Year, including three selections by the NEC, Main led Quinnipiac to the NCAA Tournament in 2001 and 2003. In 17 seasons, she has coached 68 All-NEC players, 16 All-New England players, two NEC Goalkeepers of the Year, one NEC Defensive Player of the Year, one Rookie of the Year and three NEC Tournament Most Valuable Players. In 2009, Quinnipiac field hockey received the Northeast Conference Sportsmanship Honor.

2001 Field Hockey Team
In 2001, the field hockey team broke the all-time record for wins in a season when it finished the year at 12–8, while also posting a 10–2 mark in NEC play. The Bobcats advanced to the NCAA Tournament for the first time in program history. Roster: Rosemary Bowman, Heather Cady, Julie Champagne, Kristin Crosby, Marisa Davila, Jill DiSanti, Britney Ewan, Jennifer Freese, Eileen Gallagher, Jamie Glendening, Tara Griffiths, Erin Gunn, Heather Hamwey, Amy Hollister, Lacey Johnson, Meredith Klein, Jackie Langenstein, Jennifer Lucich, Sarah Mathers, Loren Montgomery, Christina Nockunas, Chelsea Osbrey, Kelly Proper, Sarah Riley, Courtney Ryan, Rachel Slaiicunas, Julie Smith, Erin Trama and Nina Walker.

2001–02 Men’s Ice Hockey Team
The 2001–02 Quinnipiac men’s ice hockey team was undoubtedly the most successful of head coach Rand Pecknold’s tenure. Despite being picked to finish fifth in the preseason coaches’ poll, the Bobcats closed out the regular season in second place. Then, in the MAAC Tournament, Quinnipiac registered one-goal wins over Iona and Sacred Heart before taking a 6–4 win over Mercyhurst in the title game. As a result, Quinnipiac earned its first-ever trip to the NCAA Division I Tournament. Roster: Bobby Acropolis, Todd Bennett, Ben Blais, Neil Breen, Bill Cass, Chris Chandler, Bo Christini, Matt Craig, Tyler DuFour, Justin Eddy, Dan Ennis, Matt Erhart, Craig Falite, Matt Froehlich, Rob Hammel, Brian Herbert, Jamie Holden, David King, Mike LaRocca, Chris Maniatis, Ryan Morton, Ryan Olson, Matt Plante, Rob Scheer, Brandon Schmitt, Chris Tarr, Tom Watkins, Chris White and Wade Winkler.
Harold Kaplan is the part-time coordinator for the Middletown mentor program in the Middletown, CT, public school system after serving as an elementary school principal for 38 years. He and his wife, Dorothy, celebrated their 51st wedding anniversary on Dec. 25, 2011. They live in Middletown.

William O’Brien ’62 accepted a position on the national board of directors for the National Football Foundation & College Hall of Fame.

John Drotar of Merritt Island, FL, scored a hole in one on March 7, 2012, on the 12th hole at the Remington Golf Club in Kissimmee, FL. He hit a 92-yard shot with a pitching wedge. This was his second hole in one since his retirement.

William O’Brien accepted a position on the national board of directors for the National Football Foundation & College Hall of Fame. He previously served as president of the organization’s New Haven chapter. He also is involved with the Connecticut Special Olympics, the New Haven Symphony board of directors and the Greater New Haven Chamber of Commerce, among others.

David Furtak of Wallingford, CT, has retired from the FBI as a special agent.

Glen Heinzelman of Columbus, GA, is the owner/president of G.E. Heinzelman & Associates, a real estate appraisal company.

Leslie Julian of Woodbridge, CT, won a Grammy Award for his collaboration on the children’s album, “All About Bullies...Big and Small.” Julian’s song, “Donkey in a Ditch,” was one of 37 included on the album, which was voted best children’s album. Proceeds from the album’s sales will go to the International Bullying Prevention Association.

Kimberly Hartmann ’76, MHS ’82, professor and chair of occupational therapy at Quinnipiac, received an Award of Service from the Connecticut Occupational Therapy Association.

John Pagano of Meriden, CT, has been a pediatric occupational therapist for 25 years and teaches Level II students at Riverview Hospital for Children and Youth. He recently was awarded the Fieldwork Educator of the Year Award from the Connecticut Occupational Therapy Association.

The Rev. Kevin Coffey is a priest at the Episcopal Church of the Atonement (Anglican) in Fairlawn, NJ, where he lives. He is also the secretary of the Newark Chapter of the Society of Catholic Priests, the Chaplain of the Rochelle Park Fire Department and the chief of the Crisis Response Team in Rochelle Park.

Patrice (Urban) Sulik of Monroe, CT, is the health director for the Trumbull-Monroe Health District.

Robert Bruzik passed the certified financial planners test. He provides financial guidance to Quinnipiac University employees invested in retirement plans through TIAA-CREF. He also provides private individual baseball instruction in Charlotte, NC, where he lives.

Barth Keck ’84, MAT ’91, is an English teacher at Haddam-Killingworth High School in Haddam, CT. He also teaches journalism and media literacy. He lives in Branford, CT.

Ernest Malavasi wed Maryjane Parkus ’89 on April 21, 2006, at the New Haven Country Club. The couple lives in East Haddam, CT.

Marilyn (Engle) Gould moved back to Stamford, CT, after living in Florida for 45 years. She has four children.
Patricia Johannesen '62 was less than 6 months old when she took her first trip—a train ride to her grandparents’ chicken farm in New Hampshire. She hasn't stopped traveling since.

She got her first passport in 1960 to study at Norway’s University of Oslo for the summer, taking a ship across the Atlantic and making a close, lifelong friend along the way. In all, she’s collected seven passports in a small cedar box. She’s been to so many countries it’s difficult for her to remember them all off the top of her head.

“Let’s see,” she says, reading the list she must give the American Red Cross to donate blood. “Russia, Latvia, Norway, Sweden, Finland, Denmark, Australia, Vietnam, Japan, Switzerland, Austria, Germany, Italy, Hungary, Slovenia, Canada, South Africa, Panama, Costa Rica, Ireland. Oh, and the Netherlands and Belgium, I just got back from there.”

After attending her 50th Quinnipiac reunion in June (she served on the Reunion Committee), the Ellenton, Fla., resident and East Haven, Conn., native planned to travel to the Thousand Islands on the Ontario/U.S. border to celebrate the 50th wedding anniversary of the friend she met on her Oslo trip. This fall, she’ll visit Ireland again and then early next year will take her annual winter trip to Maui, Hawaii, to visit humpback whale breeding grounds.

“I’m a positive, energized person with a wide variety of interests,” says Johannesen, who worked her way through college and had a career in law offices and government before retiring to enjoy traveling, the theater and even volunteering on hot-air balloon crews.

“Ballooning is not scary, it’s a lot like sailing,” she says of her trips over the Farmington River Valley. “You float along, and it’s very quiet and peaceful, especially in the early morning.”

Johannesen heard about an annual conference on whales while visiting Kapalua, Hawaii, in 2006, and has been attending since then, along with other whale aficionados and photographers from National Geographic. She enjoys watching the whales frolic, either on whale-watching boat trips or from the docks, where people ring bells when they see the telltale spouts.

“I learned that you can identify them by their flukes, and no two are alike. Scientists can tell where they’ve been, and they see some of the same ones year after year.”

She considers traveling a challenge and is secure in the knowledge that she can pretty much cope with anything. “I plunk myself down in a place where I don’t speak the language, don’t know the culture, don’t know my way around the city, and don’t know the money, and then I become proficient at it.”

Her trip to Vietnam, in 1970 no less, came about through work. Her employer at the time, New Haven attorney Edward Marcus, was the Democratic leader of the state Senate and was running for the U.S. Senate nomination. As part of that campaign, he intended to visit Vietnam, and Johannesen asked to go along. Memorable events of the trip included flying strapped to the inside of a military transport plane hold with the back end open and having an unknown gunman shoot at her Jeep in the countryside, and miss.

But Johannesen never would have attended college if she hadn’t received a full tuition scholarship from Quinnipiac. Now she’s returning the favor. Because she has no immediate family, she has opted to give most of her estate to Quinnipiac. She also decided she’d like to see the outcome of a gift, so she is endowing a $25,000 scholarship for women majoring in business.

“Now I don’t have to die before someone can benefit,” she says. “Hopefully I’ll even get to meet whoever receives it.”

As she crosses that item off her “bucket list,” Johannesen looks forward to achieving other things on it, like traveling the Nile and maybe even visiting Antarctica.
Dear Fellow Alumni

While at Quinnipiac, I served two years as the student representative to the board of trustees. It was a time of transition—I observed a president retire and participated in the selection of a new one. I believed then, as I do now, that Quinnipiac has a great future. In those days, the Alumni Association was represented by Pasquale “Pat” Abbate ’58, who brought the Quinnipiac spirit of loyalty, passion and faith in our collegiate community to each meeting. Pat’s spirit and love for this school set the tone for selecting the future president with a common vision for the future.

This spring, I was elected president of the Alumni Association. From my time as a commuter student, a resident assistant and now one of Pat Abbate’s successors, I have always felt that Quinnipiac is an extension of home for all who pass through the quad. I look forward to representing our 30,000-strong alumni community with that same belief.

Soon, you will hear about an exciting program the Alumni Association will promote to build an alumni scholarship endowment that will represent our chance to help the next generation of students. Thank you for the opportunity to serve our Alumni Association and the Quinnipiac community.

Jim Totten ’87, president, Alumni Association National Board of Governors

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**ALUMNI ASSOCIATION NEWS**

- **Steven Cohen** is the owner of S.C. Brownstone in Boca Raton, FL. He has a daughter, Rachael, and son, Michael Harrison.
- **Christine (Wilbur) Race** of Groton, CT, is a staff occupational therapist at Lawrence & Memorial Hospital, New London, CT. She lives with her husband, Matt, and their three children, Jack, 7, and twins Sam and Abbie, 3.
- **Dyann (Savo) Vissicchio ’88, MBA ’96**, is an IT supervisor for business controlling at Sikorsky Aircraft. She also is a Girl Scout leader, treasurer for the Junior and Daisy Girl Scouts, and an active PTA member. She lives in North Haven, CT, with her husband, Joe, and their children, Melinda, 10, and Alyssa, 6.
- **Keith Woodward ’88, MBA ’92**, of Durham, CT, is the associate vice president of facilities operations at Quinnipiac. He was selected for the 2011–12 Thought Leader Series Symposium, sponsored by APPA, an organization for higher education facilities officers. This was the second consecutive year that he was chosen to participate.
- **Timothy Theriault** lives in Frisco, TX, and has two children, F. Conner and Fiona Cheyne.
- **Gary Zera** lives in Naples, FL, during the fall, spring and winter, and in Newport, RI, in the summer. He retired in 2010 from his position as CEO of the Department of Children and Families in Connecticut.
- **Dawn Ecker** of Worcester, MA, was promoted to consultant for BioProcess Technology Consultants. She is also a principal author of the company’s recently published report, “The State of Mammalian Cell Culture Biomanufacturing.”
- **Martin Mezza ’91, MBA ’93**, is the cofounder of Trusted Business Brokers in Norwalk, CT, where he lives. He is also an accredited asset management specialist at A.G. Edwards in Greenwich, CT, and a financial consultant and equity trader at Knight Capital.
- **Christopher Canetti** of Houston, TX, is president of business operations for the Houston Dynamo.
- **Jeanna (Johnson) Doherty** of South Glastonbury, CT, received an Outstanding Business Alumni Award from Quinnipiac University’s School of Business on Nov. 3, 2011. She is an audit partner at Ernst & Young.
- **Peter Sprague** of Tamarac, FL, is an assistant professor of osteopathic principles and practice at Nova Southeastern College of Osteopathic Medicine in Fort Lauderdale, FL. He teaches in the osteopathic principles and practice and sports medicine departments, practices as the lead physical therapist in the sports medicine clinic, conducts research as a new investigator and is involved in program development.
- **Christopher Skidmore** of Mount Laurel, NJ, is an assistant professor of neurology and a member of the Jefferson Comprehensive Epilepsy Center in the department of neurology at Thomas Jefferson University.
- **Tracy (Damone) Van Oss** earned her doctor of health science from Nova Southeastern in 2008. She is an assistant clinical professor of occupational therapy at Quinnipiac University and president of Classic Care LLC in North Haven, CT. She recently received the Award of Merit from the Connecticut Occupational Therapy Association.
- **Regina (Siade) Morgan** of Middletown, CT, is a level III occu-
pational therapist with a specialty in pediatrics for Yale-New Haven Hospital. She recently was awarded the Fieldwork Educator of the Year Award from the Connecticut Occupational Therapy Association.

Scott Pollak of New York, NY, received an Outstanding Business Alumni Award from Quinnipiac University’s School of Business on Nov. 3, 2011. He is director of capital market solutions at Citi.

Michelle (Porro) Sweenev and her husband, Jim, announce the birth of their son, Matthew James, on Jan. 18, 2012. He was welcomed by his big sister, Elizabeth, 2. The family lives in Norwood, MA.

Devonne Canady of West Haven, CT, is a respiratory therapist at Yale-New Haven Hospital. A former world boxing champion, she opened a youth boxing club called Elephant in the Room Boxing Gym. The gym’s location, in New Haven, in the middle of a high-crime neighborhood, provides young people with a chance to engage in healthy activity.

Tory Kempf of North Kingstown, RI, is a major account executive for Allied Waste and recently was named a member of the Boston chapter of the International Facilities Management Association.

David Ellner of Punta Gorda, FL, is a full-time paramedic with the Lee County Department of Public Safety/EMS. He also works part time as a registered nurse in the emergency department at Peace River Regional Medical Center in Port Charlotte, FL.

Marisa Love and Roy Minton announce the birth of their son, Greyson Thomas, on Feb. 14, 2012. The family lives in Bridgeport, CT.

Gus Peterson, MAT ’99, is an eighth-grade social studies teacher and department leader at Francis Walsh Intermediate School. He was inducted into the Branford

C. Rand Golletz 72

Creating more effective executives  By John Pettit

A s a baseball fan and Maryland resident, C. Rand Golletz ’72 has been impressed with Bryce Harper, the Washington Nationals’ young baseball phenom.

“From his first at-bat, he looked like he was meant to be in the Major Leagues,” Golletz said.

Golletz knows a leader when he sees one. He worked for more than 25 years as a high-ranking insurance executive before starting Rand Golletz Performance Systems, an executive coaching and consulting service. For the past 12 years, he’s shared his observations about business success with companies throughout the world.

“I work with mostly Fortune 500 executives on things like leadership development, board governance, brand management and team effectiveness—the kinds of things you need to be good at to be a CEO,” Golletz explained.

“I’ll get brought in by a company to help an individual round out his or her competencies or get ready for a new, bigger role or to grow into a senior leadership role. I want them to become more well-rounded and effective executives.” Many of the people he works with are young and possess what he calls “high-potential.”

A Bristol, Conn., native, Golletz earned a bachelor’s degree at Quinnipiac and later, an MBA from the University of Pennsylvania. He made his mark in the insurance industry, working as an executive for companies including Aetna, Cigna and The Hartford. He was chief marketing officer of the Hartford Insurance Group and president and CEO of Montgomery Insurance Companies.

Citing a change in his holding company’s operating philosophy, Golletz abruptly left the insurance industry in 1999 and never looked back.

“I went from running a company and being accountable for thousands of people to jumping into the abyss,” he said. “I spent an awful lot of my time as a senior leader growing leadership talent. Now it’s my full-time business.”

He’s also made time to write three books, among them “Consensus is Not Kumbaya: Lessons in Tough-Minded Leadership” (2011).

“I work with very successful people who have been validated, over time, for being who they are. Part of the drill for me is convincing those people that they got where they are because of their strengths and in spite of their weaknesses—that what got them here won’t get them there.”

Golletz has some advice for the Class of 2012. “Don’t have a Plan B,” he said. “Figure out what you love to do and don’t let the naysayers get in the way. Most people end up sub-optimizing their life because they opt for Plan B.”
AUG. 18: Men’s ice hockey alumni game, family skate & reception, TD Bank Sports Center, York Hill Campus, 10:30 a.m. game, noon family skate. Free.

SEPT. 9: 19th Annual Quinnipiac Day with the Boston Red Sox, Fenway Park, Boston, 11:35 a.m. reception, 1:35 p.m. game vs. Toronto, $100.

SEPT. 16: Second Annual Quinnipiac Day with the New York Yankees, Yankee Stadium, Bronx, N.Y., 11:05 a.m. reception, 1:05 p.m. game vs. Tampa Bay, $150.

SEPT. 20: Charles Gibson, former host of ABC’s “World News,” to lecture, 7 p.m., Burt Kahn Court, Mount Carmel Campus. Free.

SEPT. 22: Alumni Games & BBQ for women’s basketball, women’s lacrosse, men’s soccer and softball, various times and locations. Games are free. BBQ: $15 adults; $7 children 12 and under. T-shirt, $10.


OCT. 12-14: Parents & Family Weekend, Mount Carmel Campus.

OCT. 13: Women’s soccer alumni game & reception, Mount Carmel Campus, 10 a.m. game, free lunch follows. T-shirt, $10.

NOV. 7: Hartford Area Law Alumni Reception, 6-8 p.m., the Hartford Club, 46 Prospect St., Hartford. Sponsored by the McEnery, Messey, Sullivan Complex Litigation Group of Carter Mario Injury Lawyers.

NOV. 10: Homecoming & Athletic Hall of Fame Induction, Mount Carmel Campus.

NOV. 13: Law Alumni Reception and Bar Results Party, 6-8 p.m., Union League, 1032 Chapel St., New Haven. Sponsored by the McEnery, Messey, Sullivan Complex Litigation Group of Carter Mario Injury Lawyers.


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Education Hall of Fame in April 2012. He lives in Branford, CT, with his wife and their three children.

David Santoro of Avon, CT, is a Connecticut-licensed nursing home administrator and a licensed occupational therapist. He is the director of the Bristol Lions Low Vision Center.

Amanda (Eberhardt) Saraceno is a supply chain specialist with Siemens Healthcare Diagnostics in Westchester, NY. She and husband, John, have twin daughters, Abigail and Madelyn, 6, and a son, John, 2.

Deborah Gross Saunders, MS ’99, runs a canine rehabilitation facility on her 23-acre farm in Colchester, CT. She regularly speaks to groups and provides physical evaluation, injury treatment and conditioning regimens for canine athletes, show dogs and companion dogs.

Eric Brodsky and Melanie (Bowman) Brodsky ’01 of Holbrook, NY, announce the birth of their son, Jared Allen, on April 14, 2011. He was welcomed by big brother, Ian.

Ann (Schramek) Kline of Brookline, NH, completed her doctorate of occupational therapy at Boston University in 2009. She is an occupational therapist for the Merrimack school district. She has two children, Raegan Elizabeth, 6, and Thomas Arthur, 1.

Malgorzata (Grzesiowska) Liedlich ‘00, MS ‘01, is co-assistant to First Selectman Ed Edelson in Southbury, where she lives. She previously managed the websites, video and social media for Edelson’s campaign.

Justin Louis of Brick, NJ, is the broadcast voice for various national brands such as WhoNu? Cookies, TrueCar and MyCleanPC.

Stephanie Messer wed Alan Leonhartt on Sept. 3, 2011, at Sunday River Ski Resort in Newry, ME.

Adrien (Kane) Blaine ’00 served as matron of honor. The couple lives in Scarborough, ME.

Laura (Zalak) Soos ’00, MAT ’02, and her husband, Jeffrey, announce the birth of their daughter, Jillian Irene, on March 21, 2012. She was welcomed by her big sister, Juliana. The family lives in Milford, NJ.

Lynette White, MHS ’00, is a physician assistant for General Practitioners of Bethany. She is also an adjunct professor at Quinnipiac and a lecturer at the University of Bridgeport. She lives in Bethany, CT, with her husband, Robert.

Pamela (Meyer) Clark and her husband announce the birth of their son, Colton Sean, on Dec. 6, 2010. He was welcomed by his big sister, MacKenzie. The family lives in Middletown, NJ.

Gregg Desmarais of Springfield, MA, is the store manager for TD Bank in Westfield, MA. He is responsible for new business development, consumer and business lending, managing personnel and overseeing day-to-day operations.

Jennifer McAvey wed Colin Jarvis on Jan. 28, 2012. She is an occupational therapist at Franklin Northwest Supervisory Union. The couple lives in St. Albans, VT.

Jonathan Potokin ’01, MBA ’05, MS ’05, wed Jennifer Maddaloni ’05.
on June 8, 2010, Jon is director of finance/administration at K2 Advisors, and Jen is a respiratory care practitioner at Stamford Hospital. The couple lives in Stamford, CT.

Aaron Blank of Bothell, WA, was appointed president of The Fearey Group in Seattle, WA. He will work to expand the agency’s presence in the Pacific Northwest, and manage day-to-day operations.

Jacylann Demas of Hicksville, NY, produced the pilot episode of an animated children’s show called “Peg + Cat,” which was sold to PBS Kids and is scheduled to premiere in Fall 2013. The show introduces the early concepts of math to children ages 2–5.

Christopher Gill ’02, MBA ’04, of Clifton, NJ, works for Colony Pest Management in the areas of sales and developing new business relationships.

Alison Thompson of Boston was promoted to vice president of Solomon McCown & Company.

Jennifer Blair of Berlin, CT, received her AOTA board certification in pediatrics in March 2012, a distinction accomplished by less than 1 percent of occupational therapists nationwide. She currently practices occupational therapy in the North Haven public schools, Cheshire Fitness Zone, and in the private sector.

Jonathan Carlson of East Setauket, NY, appeared on “The Rachel Maddow Show” on MSNBC on Nov. 11, 2011.

Lauren Carmody Grenier and her husband, Eric, announce the birth of their son, Connor James, on Nov. 11, 2011. The family lives in Southington, CT.

Marlon LeWinter is account supervisor at Catalyst Public Relations in New York City. Catalyst was named “Boutique Agency of the Year” by The Holmes Report and also received the 2012 “Small Agency of the Year” Award from PRWeek.

Christine Polidoro ’03, MPT ’05, of Union, NJ, is a licensed physical therapist.

Marilyn (Aiello) Rowland and her husband, Scott, announce the birth of their son, Brandon Scott, on Nov. 16, 2011. He was welcomed by his big sister, Gracie, 2. The family lives in Woodbridge, CT.

Kathryn Sans wed Mike Smith on May 14, 2011, in Destin, FL. The couple lives in Marietta, GA.

Daniela Volo is a real estate agent with Calcagni Associates in Wallingford, CT. She is the buyer’s agent on an upcoming episode of HGTV’s House Hunters, scheduled to air this summer. She was also the recipient of the Connecticut 2012 Five Star Real Estate Agents Award.

LeAnn Dearman, MS ’04, of Midland, TX, is the city of Seabrook’s first marketing manager. Previously she worked for the city of Midland, TX, as a multimedia developer.

Lisa Finelli is a media buyer at MPG in Boston.

Adriana (Berges) Firenzuoli of Lindenhurst, NJ, is a human resources generalist for the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey.

Amy Froebel of Scottsdale, AZ, is a senior event planner with FreeLife International.

Melissa Greenberg is the director of sales for GraphEffect’s New York location. She will lead the East Coast sales team and assist with strategy development and generating revenue within the digital ad space.

Raymond Hernandez of Hartford received “Connecticut’s Finest Award” for 2012 presented by the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. He is serving a one-year term as vice chair of community involvement for Hartford Young Professionals and Entrepreneurs.

George Sloan of Los Angeles, CA, was the sole writer for the Feb. 20, 2012, episode of the TV series “How I Met Your Mother.”

Joseph DiLandro of Queensbury, NY, was promoted to North American sales manager at Computershare Governance Services in Shelton, CT.

Michael Eysel ’05, MBA ’06, of Staten Island, NY, is a client service consultant with Symphony IRI Group in Fairfield, NJ.

Betsy Girard wed Aakash Shah on March 31, 2012. She is a social worker at The Children’s Center of Hamden. They live in Milford, CT.

Rikki Massand, MS ’05, and Aida Sabillon announce the birth of their daughter, Desire Phoenix, on Aug. 2, 2010. She was welcomed by her big sister, Shakra. The family lives in Somerset, NJ.

Courtney Nebons is a studio producer for Standard & Poor’s in New York City, where she lives. She previously worked as a programming coordinator for MSNBC.

Craig Tabatchnick wed Cara Schultz ’06, MS ’07 on Oct. 29, 2011. The couple lives in Jersey City, NJ.

Mark Antonucci received his doctorate in education with distinction from Arizona State University on Dec. 14, 2011. He lives in Chandler, AZ.

The newly elected members of the Alumni Association National Board of Governors follow, along with their terms of service.

James Totten ’87, president (2012–14)
Brett Amendola ’91, vice president (2012–14)
David Benivegna ’00, at-large (2012–15)
Tara Michalowski ’04, at-large (2012–15)
Christopher Pia ’09, at-large (2012–15)
Karen Rogoff ’96, at-large (2012–15)
Genna Cappellini ’10, New Jersey chapter president
Dana (Conseglio) Doucette ’04, MAT ’06, Rhode Island chapter president
IN MEMORIAM

2010
Catherine C. Giffin ’49

2011
Francis J. Barry ’62
Stuart R. Cooper ’56
Linda S. Denholtz ’90
Marion (Bradford) DesRochers ’38
Tricia Anne Ede ’95
Audrey (Knowles) Gilman ’49
Walter H. Greenwald ’48
Joan E. (Caron) Hamelin ’69
Jerome Mandelowitz ’53
Eileen (Noone) McCarty ’39
Barry R. Mestuzzi ’67
Sherman E. Shapiro ’47
Linda (Marino) Siegmund ’86
Shirley J. Young ’83
Robert S. Zigmont ’51

2012
James Armstrong, ex-hockey coach
James A. Banas ’60
Joseph M. Cofrancesco ’63
Dariusz Czarnota ’98
Joseph P. DeStefano II ’00, MS ’05
Ruth (Wedmore) Enders ’44

Charles J. Fasciano Sr. ’53
David M. Garlonsky ’69
Dennis M. Grove ’62
Theodore R. Hoponick ’57
Mark MacKoul ’81
William J. Maguire ’75
John V. Marino Jr. ’00
Ann M. Massimino ’56
Daniel A. Mastrone ’94
Vito M. Mazza ’73
Maureen C. (McCafferty) Mattia ’87
John J. McGovern III ’59
Richard H. Pollack ’65
Gracette (Townsend) Sutterlin ’38
Sheila (Frenett) Thomas ’81
Lisa Tollis ’03
Armand A. Vagnini ’40

Murray Lender ’50 passes
Murray Lender ’50, vice chairman of the University’s Board of Trustees, died in March. His 24-year tenure on the board was instrumental in Quinnipiac’s rise to national prominence. A story about his life and work will appear in the next issue of Quinnipiac Magazine.

Brandi Blevins of Pasadena, MD, is a physician assistant for St. Agnes Hospital. She was awarded a Certificate of Added Qualifications in Orthopaedic Surgery from the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants. She is one of only 232 certified PAs to earn a CAQ in the program’s first year.

Zachary Candito is an event producer for the Ultimate Fighting Championship. He will produce the weigh-in, pre- and post-fight shows on FUEL TV. He is an Emmy-Award winner who previously worked for ESPN, producing “MMA Live” and “Fantasy Football Now.”

Gregory Cohen is a consignment director/professional numismatist for Stack’s Bowers Galleries in Irvine, CA, and New York City. He works with collectors of rare coins and paper money who wish to sell their material through Stack’s auction sites.

Jaime Edry wed Christopher Gallucio on Sept. 21, 2011, in Barbados. The couple lives in Amesbury, MA.

Melissa Goduti of Wallingford, CT, was a passenger on the ill-fated cruise ship, Costa Concordia, in January. She and her mother were fortunate to escape in one of the ship’s lifeboats.

Courtney Keefe, MS ’06, wed Christopher Benevides on Sept. 8, 2011. She works for the Connecticut Hospital Association. The couple lives in Waterbury, CT.

Lisamaria Proscino of Hamden and Emily (Riordan) Lucibello, JD ’09, opened a law practice, Lucibello & Proscino, LLP, in Orange, CT.


Meredith Somers of Alexandria, VA, is a general assignment reporter for the Washington Times metro desk.

Chelsea Van Vleet is a partner in Bluebird Productions, an event planning and marketing firm in Aspen, CO, where she lives.

Ashleigh Whelan is a program officer in the governance division for the International Republican Institute in Washington, DC.

Michael Zavodsky of Hoboken, NJ, is senior vice president of corporate sponsorships for Barclays Center. He has been affiliated with NETS Basketball since 2005.

Rocco Aloe is the weekend morning/weekday noon producer at WBTV of Charlotte, NC, where he lives.

Mary Anna Baldino is a channel supply account manager for Apple in Austin, TX, where she lives.

Christopher Dill, MHS ’07, of Guilford, CT, and his wife, Aimee, announce the birth of their son, Brayden Evan, on April 17, 2012.

Michael Hacku ’07, MS ’11, is the assistant webmaster for the New England Patriots.

Danielle Leonard wed Matthew Major in March 2011. She opened her own law office in Jamesburg, NJ, her hometown.

Janette Lopez ’07, MBA ’09, is a channel supply account manager for ARAMARK in Philadelphia, PA. She handles department and project management of business dining brands.

Jeffrey Reisner ’07, MBA ’09, of Pleasantville, NY, was promoted to partner/associate director at GroupM in New York City.

Courtney Rice is the corporate communications and branding manager for Housing Authority Insurance Group in Cheshire, CT.

Rhonda (Norell) Day of Manchester, CT, completed her project management professional certification in December 2010.

Matt Delaney ’08, MAT ’11, left for Indonesia, where he will serve a two-year stint with the Peace Corps.
Eva Bevan is an account services specialist with PMI, a family business.

Ashley Wigfield is a post-production assistant and does voiceovers on the television show “30 Rock.” She lives in New York City.

Kurt Larsen of Weymouth, MA, is an account services specialist with State Street in Quincy, MA.

Sharon Ng of Staten Island, NY, is a listings editor with the Staten Island Advance, Grasmere.

Adam Pacio, MS’09, of Bridgeport, CT, is an interactive project manager freelancing in the New York City metro area.

Matthew Andrew of Naugatuck, CT, is a freelance 3D convergence operator for ESPN 3D. He travels the country setting up and working various sporting events, including the BCS National Football Championship and Winter X Games.

Kenneth Forte of East Haven, CT, was featured in the December 2011 issue of ADVANCE for Nurses magazine. He helped implement a new process at Bridgeport Hospital that lessens emergency department waiting times.

Melissa Herbette wed Christopher Frulla on Oct. 22, 2011. The couple lives in Wallingford, CT.

Kelsey Lain of Westtown, NY, works for Pine Island Turf Nursery, a family business.

Taber Lightfoot, MS’10, has been named the communications officer for social media at Yale University. She lives in Hamden.

Emily Perkins, MS’10, is a web content specialist at the University of New Haven.

Chris Tagaris attended the 12th Summit of Nobel Peace Prize Laureates in Chicago in April as part of a delegation from the Albert Schweitzer Institute at Quinnipiac. The theme of the summit was “Speak Up, Speak Out for Freedom and Rights.”

George Vanvalkenburg of Cheshire, CT, is a certified public accountant and 2012 CFA Level II candidate.

Mera Beckford is a claims case manager II for Liberty Mutual in Valley Stream, NY. She lives in Arverne, NY.

Amanda Bilas of Marshfield, MA, is working for a year with the non-profit company, Grassroot Soccer, in Lusaka, Zambia, to help educate and motivate Zambian youth and help stop the spread of HIV/AIDS. She organizes events and plans interventions for the Girls Parliament and ZPI (Zambian-led prevention initiative) groups.

Giana Gleeson of Canastota, NY, is a high school Spanish teacher and member of Teach for America.

Robert Michelin of Vernon, NJ, is a local reporter for Main Street Connect.

Eric Schaefer of Warren, NJ, passed the New Jersey CPA exam.

Kristen Swartz of Brooklyn, CT, is a video content coordinator for Zappos.com in Louisville, KY.

Louis Venturelli attended the 12th Summit of Nobel Peace Prize Laureates in Chicago in April as part of a delegation from the Albert Schweitzer Institute at Quinnipiac.

Randi Iaco, MS’12, wed Brendan Plake on Nov. 11, 2011, at the Carriage House in Farmington, CT. She is a communications specialist at Middlesex Community College. The couple lives in Middletown, CT.

FROM VISION TO VIDEO

During his clinical rotation at a physical therapy facility, Scott Hebert, DPT ’12, began to experience a frustration common among physical therapists. He noticed that after prescribing home exercises to patients, PTs have little to offer other than handouts with rudimentary drawings of people demonstrating exercises. “The images were confusing, and they were definitely underutilized by the patients,” said Hebert, who earned his doctor of physical therapy this past May.

Believing there had to be a better way, he came up with TheraVid, a Web-based home exercise tool that offers high-definition exercise videos and an online interface for rehab providers and their patients. The site features a library of more than 250 videos. Clinicians can log into the site, load exercise videos to a patient’s profile, and send the patient a link to their prescribed exercises. The website also allows patients to send questions to their clinician.

Eight clinics in Connecticut use TheraVid. The feedback has been positive, and some PTs have suggested exercises to add.
Simply ‘great’

Professor bestows high praise on former President Kent

By Lawrence Levine

The late Leonard J. Kent was a great teacher. That is the highest praise one can earn in the academic world. I have known many excellent teachers in my long tenure at Quinnipiac University, but greatness is a rare thing here or elsewhere.

Lenny Kent was a great teacher. Yes, he was president of Quinnipiac for six years in the 70s, was a dean of graduate studies at California State University, Chico, and held a PhD from Yale in comparative literature with a record of scholarly publications, but it was in the classroom that he lived.

What separates the truly great teacher from others is that his or her impact doesn’t slip out the door with the student at the end of the last class. The effect of the teaching endures for a generation or more. So it was for those students lucky enough to have encountered and been influenced by this powerful presence in the classroom, where Lenny reigned over a span of more than five decades.

Lenny regarded the title “professor” very seriously. Goodness, did he profess. One never had to wonder where he stood on important life issues (Russian literature, his specialty, seems well suited to raising such issues). He welcomed and encouraged debate and argument, and his students found that by engaging him, by responding to his prodding, their own thinking became more nuanced and clear.

When Lenny passed last November, he left behind a legion of students whose lives have been enriched by their experiences with him. Here is what a few wrote:

Sarah (Hubeny) Williams ’01, MHA ’06: “He opened my mind to literature and pushed me to think and express my thoughts like never before—I am forever changed from his honest and compassionate questioning and mentoring.”

Janet (Kipphut) Ainsworth ’74, JD ’84: “His classes were electric.”

Bob Trotta ’69: “Dr. Kent was my English professor in the late 1960s. He was an imposing figure and a great teacher who influenced me to spend 40 years teaching English/language arts in a local school system.”

Karen (Dionne) Carlone ’97, MHS ’03: “He was inspirational, genuine, and it was a pleasure to be in his company.”

There is not nearly enough space to record all the student tributes that have been received.

Lenny was my friend and a significant mentor in my own career. He reinforced the idea that passion was a major key to effective teaching. If one does not feel engaged or involved with the content of one’s subject, effectiveness will be limited. I’ve seen Lenny teach and while many of us tried to incorporate his methods, he set such an impossibly high standard of excellence that our reaching it on a regular basis was simply not going to happen.

His energy and devotion to our craft was total.

Thank you, Lenny, for everything. Sleep well, bubbeleh.

Lawrence Levine is a professor emeritus of psychology.
Alumni connected at a variety of events.

1. More than 700 alumni came back to campus for Reunion 2012 in late June. Evelyn (Barone) Breuler ’41 and George Breuler ’41 at the Golden Bobcats dinner for alumni celebrating 50-plus years since graduation.

2. On the quad during the family picnic event at Reunion, from left: Eric Peterson ’10; Dennis J. Crokos ’10, MBA ’11; Cory Cerritelli ’10, MBA ’11; Katrina Lennon ’10, MBA ’11; and Ryan Nolan ’10.


4. Evelina Husr ’10 and friend Meredith Malloy played in the annual alumnae hockey game in February.

5. Nicole Marolda ’07 and Jay Arena ’06 at a reception for New York City alumni and parents of current students at the World Bar, Trump World Tower.

6. Martine Trinka, JD ’11, and Jennifer Brady, JD ’11, at a reception hosted by the School of Law at the Maritime Aquarium in Norwalk, Conn., in April.

7. This group of alumni gathered in New York City to march with the Quinnipiac contingent in the St. Patrick’s Day Parade. From left: Keith Haskell ’94, Keith Bellizzi ’93, Dave Audette ’93, Jeff Moreira ‘93, John Hughes ’93, Kris Steele ’93, Chris Scharf ’93, Mark Charrette ’93 and Doug Danielson ’93.
**Highlights**

- Athletic Hall of Fame induction ceremony
- All-alumni pregame reception and rally at the Rocky Top Student Center, hosted by Manny Carreiro, vice president and dean of students
- Quinnipiac men’s ice hockey vs. Cornell

Plus, special celebrations for alumni who were involved with
- Black Student Union
- Quinnipiac nursing (marking 40 years)
- residential life
- student media (WQAQ, Q30, QBSN, Brave/Summit, Chronicle or Montage)

If you belonged to any of these groups and would like to help plan your alumni gathering, email alumni@quinnipiac.edu.

Also, academic conferences are planned for diagnostic imaging and physician assistant alumni (CEUs available).

Be sure to book your hotel early.

To register, visit www.quinnipiac.edu/homecoming