School named for Dr. Frank H. Netter

Michelangelo of Medicine
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ON THE COVER: The skull painting was created by Dr. Frank H. Netter, for whom the new School of Medicine has been named through a major gift from his cousin, the late Edward Netter, and his wife, Barbara. Netter illustration from www.netterimages.com. ©Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

LEFT: Freshman Cristina Scolamiero, right, with her mother, Linda, left, and sisters Caterina and Gianna at Parents and Family Weekend. Photo John Hassett
Pundits analyze politics and primaries

In June 2010, former House Speaker Newt Gingrich's presidential campaign was on the brink of collapse. By early December, he was the Republican frontrunner. The exciting variables that enabled Gingrich to bounce back and forth—and that shape the presidential race—were at the heart of the panel discussion, “Poll Position: The Race for the White House.” George Stephanopoulos, co-anchor of “Good Morning America” moderated the discussion at the Metropolitan Club in New York City in December. It was hosted by the School of Communications and the Quinnipiac University Polling Institute and attended by alumni and friends of the University. Panelists were Beth Fouhy, Associated Press political reporter; John Heilemann, New York Magazine national affairs editor and author of “Game Change”; Eric Shawn, correspondent for Fox News; and Nate Silver, creator and author of The New York Times blog “FiveThirtyEight.”

The panelists discussed race-changing factors, such as the effects of negative campaign ads by super PACS, which are funded by union and corporate money; what in a candidate’s record could trouble voters; and challenges for President Barack Obama if a third-party candidate enters the race.

Given the uncertainty of the political landscape, Shawn said, “It’s a delicious time to be a reporter. We’re just salivating over what’s going to happen.”
Pulitzer Prize-winning journalists discuss their recent books

In September, Pulitzer Prize-winning New York Times columnist Thomas Friedman visited campus for a lecture in which he discussed his book “That Used to Be Us: How America Fell Behind in the World It Invented and How We Can Come Back,” co-written with Michael Mandelbaum.

Friedman dove into the challenges facing America, emphasizing that innovative people will stay employed, even in this era of downsizing and outsourcing. “Employers are looking for people who can reinvent and re-engineer their jobs,” he said. He encouraged young people to think like immigrants—“Get out there with more energy and drive than the next person”—to work like an artisan creating well-crafted products, and to go beyond what is expected.


Wilkerson unveiled the harsh economic and social circumstances that spurred 6 million African-Americans to leave the south to migrate north and west. She discussed the reaction to this migration and how it differed from the experience of other newcomers, such as European immigrants. She also described the opportunities artists and musicians had in cities, such as Chicago, that led to the creation of new genres, such as jazz.

“These are gifts to the world, not just the United States,” she said. “Music is an example of how an entire culture can be changed by the migration of people.”

Former Quinnipiac president Leonard Kent dies

Leonard J. Kent, a former president of Quinnipiac College, died Nov. 8, 2011. Kent was a faculty member in the English department for 38 years, serving as president from 1971-77. Following his presidency, he returned to his greatest love, teaching, where he inspired generations of students. He retired as a professor emeritus in 1997.

“As president, he saw the college through some very challenging times, and when I became president, he immediately became one of my closest advisers and confidantes,” said President John L. Lahey. He added: “His friendship was priceless. His wit, wisdom and intellect were extraordinary, and he will be sorely missed by so many members of our community.”

A tribute to Kent will appear in the next issue of Quinnipiac Magazine.

Educators address educational disparity

Fifty-six years after the landmark Brown v. Board of Education case, inequality in U.S. schools persists, particularly for black and Latino children.

“It’s not an achievement gap, it’s an access gap,” explained Susan Taylor, journalist and founder of the National CARES Mentoring Movement.

On Sept. 15, Taylor was one of more than 800 educators and community leaders who attended the Educational Disparity and Minority Youth Symposium at Quinnipiac to share ideas and begin conversations about how to increase educational access for all students. Marilyn Ford, professor of law at Quinnipiac, spearheaded the daylong event, sponsored by the School of Law and Yale Law School. Panelists included Carlotta Walls LaNier, the youngest member of the Little Rock Nine; Edward Lewis, founder of Essence Magazine and chairman of the successful Harlem Village Academy; and Former Olympian Marion Jones.

Jones called on her experience to illustrate the importance of helping young people make good decisions. She served six months in prison for lying to federal investigators about her steroid use. “The key is for us to ensure that the choices that we make and our students make, especially as minorities, don’t disqualify us from taking full advantage of the opportunities that come our way,” she said.
School of Nursing hosts open house

School of Nursing Dean Jean Lange welcomed 450 alumni, students and members of the campus community at an Oct. 18 celebration marking the school’s official opening.

Forty years after Quinnipiac began offering an associate’s degree in nursing, it now has a school that offers a bachelor’s degree and a doctor of nursing practice.

“With an aging workforce poised to retire, we need more doctorally prepared nurses who can test ways to improve patient care, teach the next generation of nurses, and help bridge our nation’s monumental gap in access to primary care providers,” Lange said.

The school, housed in a technologically advanced facility on the North Haven Campus, provides an educational experience where nursing students learn alongside students from a host of health care disciplines.

Nursing artifacts, from past nursing uniforms to antique equipment, and a slide show of historical nursing photos were on display at the open house.

The School of Nursing also launched two “Conversations with Leaders” panel discussions in November. The discussions are part of the Nursing Leadership Lecture Series, funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation New Careers in Nursing Grant. Quinnipiac received $80,000 in 2010 to support and attract students traditionally under-represented in the field of nursing.

The first Conversations with Leaders was a faculty panel featuring professors Barbara Moynihan, Karen Pawelek, Lynn Price and Rhea Sanford. Karen Blanchette ‘10, Amy Kelly ’10 and Carrisa Tufano, MSN ’06, participated in a second panel.

The purpose of the series is to encourage nursing students to think about nursing as a career and not just a job, and to develop goals for success and leadership in the profession.

Students feast before finals

Undergraduate students received a tasty sendoff before winter break with the traditional holiday meal served by their very own professors.

Jill Martin, chair of the holiday dinner committee and chair of legal studies said, “We want to do something for our students because the end of the semester is always stressful.”

The special menu included several kinds of pasta, ham and apple cider—and festive decorations. Angela Julian, a junior psychology major, says the wait is worth it.

“You can smell the delicious food. The line gets really long. We got here really early.”
Welcome back alumni and parents!

More than 4,000 people visited campus for Parents and Family Weekend and Homecoming in October. At Homecoming, five alumni were honored with the Distinguished Alumni Award during an induction brunch—Patrick Baumgarten ’73, Albert Canosa ’69, Frank Casanova II ’80, Robert W. Johnson ’72 and Maxwell Stock ’47. Donald L. Perlroth ’53 received the Distinguished Service Award while Michael Zavodsky ’07 was presented with the Recent Alumni Award.

Quinnipiac’s Theater for Community performed “Seven” in November at Long Wharf Theatre, Stage II, in New Haven. Written by a group of well-known playwrights, including actress Anna Deavere Smith, “Seven” is based on interviews with women from around the world who suffered violence and abuse, yet survived to become advocates for women in their countries who continue to be brutalized. Cast members portrayed real women from Nigeria, Cambodia, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Northern Ireland, Russia and Guatemala.

‘Seven’ spotlights international abuse

Engineering on board

Quinnipiac soon will add engineering to its academic offerings. The new engineering department, which will admit its first class this fall pending state approval, eventually will grow into the School of Engineering.

Scott R. Hamilton, a professor and chair of engineering at Quinnipiac, emphasized the need for more engineers in the United States and around the world and said the job outlook was positive in each of the disciplines QU will offer. He said the addition of engineering should attract a new group of potential students to the University. The four engineering disciplines to be offered are civil, mechanical, industrial and software engineering.

The program will focus on student learning, reflecting the latest trends and innovations such as sustainability, social engineering and renewable energy. He emphasized that the engineering instruction will be highly interactive and incorporate a large hands-on, learn-by-doing component.
Business leaders will teach capstone seminar course

The School of Business inducted two industry icons into its Business Leader Hall of Fame in November during a dinner and ceremony at the Metropolitan Club in New York City.

More than 200 alumni, business leaders, faculty and students gathered to honor David M. Darst, a managing director and chief investment strategist at Morgan Stanley Smith Barney, and James W. McGlothlin, chairman and CEO of The United Company.

At the end of the evening, Donald Weinbach, vice president of development and alumni affairs at Quinnipiac, announced that Darst and McGlothlin will teach a capstone course on leadership at QU in the Spring 2013 semester along with Bill Weldon ’71, chairman and CEO of Johnson & Johnson, and Robert Castrignano, a principal in the equities division at Sandler O’Neill + Partners.

“It’s critically important that business students understand and appreciate the leadership challenges that business executives face,” said Matthew O’Connor, dean of the School of Business. “I can think of no better way for students to learn about these issues than with a senior seminar on leadership that is co-taught by CEOs and directors of leading firms. This will be a wonderful experience for our students.”

The four executives will be the first to teach in the University’s new Executive Professor Program, which will bring current and past corporate leaders to campus.

A founding president of the Morgan Stanley Investment Group, Darst has written eight books including the bestselling “The Little Book That Saves Your Assets.” He imparted tips for success in business and in life to students, among them: “Be a master of something, be passionate about life and learning, and find great coaches and mentors.”

McGlothlin has been an advocate of education at all levels, particularly at Mountain Mission School in his native Grundy, Va. He serves on the board of trustees of the school for at-risk youth from around the country and world who live there.

Weldon, a former Hall of Fame inductee, told the school’s story in a video used to introduce McGlothlin. Six former outstanding business alumni awards were presented to Jeanne Doherty ’94 and Scott Pollak ’96. Doherty, a CPA, is an audit partner in the Hartford office of Ernst & Young and serves as its campus coordinator to the University. Pollak, a managing director for capital markets and solutions at Citi in New York City, is a member of the School of Business New York City Advisory Committee and brings Quinnipiac students into the Citi culture by hosting them for job shadow experiences. A former Quinnipiac hockey player, Pollak created an endowed fund to support excellence in the men’s ice hockey program.

Three current QU students were honored with emerging leader awards, which recognize business students who demonstrate excellence in and out of the classroom. Recipients were Jordan Berman ’12, a senior international business major; Hannah Leech ’12, a senior accounting major; and John Logan Brady, MBA/CFA ’12.
Students hit GOP campaign trail

Just five days before the January New Hampshire primary, public relations major Alex Miller hit the streets of that state’s Republican voting districts, knocking on doors and touting the qualifications of presidential hopeful Ron Paul.

“A lot of work goes into getting one vote. You really see that when doing this,” said Miller, who stepped knee-deep into grassroots campaigning as part of an advanced-level seminar with political science professor Scott McLean.

Miller was one of 28 undergraduates who took part in McLean’s Fall 2011 seminar, which included two weekend trips to New Hampshire and culminated with a 10-day trip to the Granite State over winter break.

“Very few political science courses integrate campaign work with a college course to this degree of intensity,” McLean said. “New Hampshire is only a three-hour drive from campus, so we have a laboratory for applying and honing our knowledge of voter outreach strategies.”

In class, students debated hot campaign issues. They also volunteered for presidential campaigns. To drum up support for their candidates in New Hampshire, students canvassed neighborhoods, called residents and helped to coordinate town hall meetings and rallies. Students also got a behind-the-scenes glimpse of the Jan. 7 ABC News Republican debate.

“This experience has given me a greater understanding of our political world,” said political science major Ben Cloutier, who attended a rally in a packed airport hangar. “It’s great to be working toward a common cause with a common goal in mind.”

Jordanne Anderson, a criminal justice and political science double major, worked with the Rick Perry campaign throughout the fall semester, but switched to the Rick Santorum campaign just before the primary.

“Just the access we have to the candidates is amazing. It makes them feel so much more real,” Anderson said. “You could be talking to a future president. It’s incredible.”

Miller explained what attracts him and other young people to Ron Paul. “I think it’s his charisma, his team works well with social media, and his message is good. He is liberal on social issues, but conservative on economic ones. He’s different compared to the rest of the Republican nominees.”
Arena dedicated

The University unveiled its newly named High Point Solutions Arena at a ceremony in November before the men’s ice hockey game against St. Lawrence University at the TD Bank Sports Center. Brothers Mike and Tom Mendiburu, founders of High Point Solutions, were on hand.

Teach-ins define Campus Cross Talk

The University debuted an intellectual initiative last fall called Campus Cross Talk. The 2011–12 theme is “So You Say You Want a Revolution.” In addition to a September lecture by New York Times columnist Thomas Friedman and a program commemorating the 10th anniversary of 9/11, the University hosted two teach-ins: one focused on social media and the revolution that began with the Arab Spring uprisings last year; the other on the economics and politics of revolution.

The 9/11 program featured a panel of former and current journalists who discussed the performance of the media during and after the terrorist attacks. One of them, Paul Friedman, the executive vice president of ABC News at the time, noted that if 9/11 were to happen today, people would be searching for their missing loved ones on Facebook, not hanging posters. Friedman, the professional in residence in the School of Communications this academic year, said he prefers the gatekeeping function of the mainstream media to “the anarchy of tweeting when it comes to reporting.”

Brian Stelter, a reporter for The New York Times, explored the pros and cons of Twitter and said that while misinformation does get posted, the medium self-corrects.

School of Communications Dean Lee Kamlet moderated the teach-in about social media and revolution, held in October. Speakers were Janet Bahgat, an adjunct professor who was in Cairo a week before the revolution; Alan Fisher, a correspondent from Al Jazeera; and Dr. Hazem Hallak, whose brother was tortured and killed by Syrian authorities. They noted that through social media, protesters were able to tell their stories and organize in a way not previously possible.

“Thousands of people realized they weren’t alone. They gained a voice through social media,” said Fisher. Upcoming spring Cross Talk events include a teach-in on gender and revolution April 11.

Teaming for better health

Faculty from the schools of Health Sciences, Medicine and Nursing collaborated to create the Center for Interprofessional Healthcare Education at Quinnipiac. The center is funded in part by a $9,000 Purdue Pharma educational grant, which will support projects that weave interprofessionalism into course work. Another goal is to develop a specific interprofessional curriculum with a focus on pain management.

The center is currently offering two courses: “Health Challenges and Team-Based Solutions,” in which health care professionals from different disciplines present in the classroom, and in some cases the community; and “Responsible Citizenship and Diversity Awareness in Health Care.”

From left: Dean Lee Kamlet, Paul Friedman, Professor Margarita Diaz and Brian Stelter.
QUAD QUOTES

How much do you think social media contributes to political change?

“A huge amount. People are more vocal about what they think when they are behind a wall. I have found it’s the same for class discussions held online vs. in the classroom.”

—MARISSA BOGRIS ’14, ACCOUNTING

Aymen Khalawi ’15, management

“Where I come from—a city called Jeddah in Saudi Arabia—social media didn’t work out well for protests because the monarchy was so strong and there were always police in the gathering places, but it worked for President Obama for sure.”

Lila Carney, assistant director of student media

“Hundreds of thousands have come out because they saw a tweet. It really reaches the people. When a lot of people are tweeting, the government can’t go after everyone.”

Luis Moyano, assistant director of admissions, QU Online

“Social media is holding everyone more accountable. Twenty or 30 years ago, we got our news from TV networks. Today, I’m getting my news also from the Internet, where many people contribute. In some ways, everyone is a journalist.”

Sean Nugent ’15, business

“It’s changed—a complete 180. People are responding through social media. But, you have to know where that information is coming from, whether it’s from credible sources you can trust.”

Alexa Lombardi ’12, public relations

“Social media has had more influence in the past decade. I think people are more involved and more aware because of it. They can go on the Internet and share their opinion and see what others post. It’s informing them and keeping them more up-to-date. I find out my information through social media before I find out about it in a newspaper. It’s crazy to think that a medium we all use to keep in touch and communicate with people could be so powerful.”

WQUN IS A WINNER

The Hamden Chamber of Commerce presented its prestigious Community Advocate of the Year Award to AM 1220 WQUN during its Chamber Choice Awards in November. The award is given to a business or organization that has demonstrated extraordinary service to the Hamden community.

AM 1220 WQUN staff, from left: Greg Little, Ryan Krupa, Ray Andrews, Maria Phillips, Steve Savino and Nancy Falcone. Photo by John Columbus.
Fire on the Mountain

The setting sun on a mid-January evening bathes the Mount Carmel Campus and York Hill Campus, lit top right, in sherbet shades. Although most students were home enjoying some respite and gearing up for a productive spring semester, others spent several weeks taking classes during the J-term.

PHOTOGRAPH BY Thea Moritz
Soccer has always been a part of life for Truong Nguyen ’08, a former member of the Quinnipiac men’s soccer team.

The Keene, N.H., native says the sport taught him to have confidence in his abilities. He’d like to provide that same experience to the students he teaches in the small farming village of Kepuhdoko, Indonesia, where he is a Peace Corps volunteer. Nguyen teaches in a madrasa, an Islamic senior high school where 80 percent of the students are girls. In a deeply religious region, the girls often assume traditional roles and marry at an early age. The country has made strides in gender equity, but providing athletic opportunities for girls is a challenge when they have no place to play, except on rocky fields.

“Our girls really want to participate in sports, but they haven’t had the proper facilities to do so,” explains Nguyen.

After hearing talk about the desire to build an athletic center at the school, Nguyen raised $2,000 from friends and family to complement the $2,000 already raised by community members. It is an impressive amount, considering each resident makes about $750 annually.

“The athletics facility is something that villagers and students have been talking about for a long time. I just wanted to push them to make it a reality,” he explains. “It gives our school and our village something that others do not have. That was really empowering for them.”

Members of the community are overseeing the construction project. The structure will have a futsal court, which is an indoor soccer court, and a basketball court. Nguyen’s students have never played basketball, but they’ve seen the sport on TV and are “beyond excited” to learn, he says. And Nguyen is eager to teach.

“Seeing how excited and motivated the girls were at the possibility of playing basketball really lit a fire under me,” he admits.

The athletics center is a major step toward motivating young Indonesian women to set and achieve goals that many feel are out of reach. He and other teachers at the school encourage the girls to learn skills, such as auto repair, that can boost their confidence and challenge gender roles.

“He understands how powerful the game can be in changing people’s lives and is committed to doing just that,” says Eric Da Costa ’01, head coach of the Quinnipiac men’s soccer team.
“Creating this facility will not only give these kids a safe place to enjoy the game but will help to empower them as they build confidence and self-esteem,” Da Costa says.

Former teammates and classmates helped Nguyen during a fundraiser at a men’s soccer game last fall and helped drive people to the project’s fundraising Facebook page.

Nguyen, who earned a BS in biology at Quinnipiac, participated in an alternative spring break trip to Nicaragua as a student. That inspired him to join the Peace Corps. Quinnipiac has had about half a dozen students participate in the international program that places people in developing nations to work and promote peace. Nguyen was one of the first 17 volunteers to work in the world’s largest Muslim nation after 45 years of no Peace Corps participation.

Nguyen’s parents also inspired him to volunteer abroad. They emigrated from Vietnam, worked hard to establish themselves in the U.S. and continued to support their family in their home country. “Seeing how much they were willing to sacrifice and give back motivated me to do the same,” he says.

“Growing up in my household, perhaps there wasn’t always money, but there was always soccer. My father always made time to kick the ball around with us, regardless of how long his day was or how tired he was,” Nguyen says. “It taught me to persevere and to never give up. I hope my students and the villagers can get the same thing from the sport.”

Learn more about his work at http://maliwanel.blogspot.com/.

Jenna Wallace ’11 wanted to step outside her comfort zone. She had no idea how far away from comfort she’d be when she became a Fulbright recipient and English teacher in Pekanbaru, Sumatra, in Indonesia.

Wallace, who had never taught before, is reminded of this every time she stands in front of one of her 11 classes or prepares lesson plans for her 300 high school students.

Still, she revels in the challenge. “I really like that there is so much to learn,” she explains via Skype. “There are so many different cultures and languages in the country. Even though it’s known for being the biggest Muslim country, I could tell that wasn’t the whole story.”

And it hasn’t been. All the intriguing bits of information she’s learned, from new words to social and religious customs, are on sticky notes that cover one wall of her rented room.

Wallace is teaching this year on a Fulbright U.S. Student Program scholarship in the English Teaching Assistantship program. The Merrimack, N.H., native is the first Quinnipiac alumnus to receive the prestigious award. She graduated with a BA in English with minors in anthropology and women’s studies.

Being far away from family is daunting, as is learning about a new culture. “It’s hard being a fairly independent young woman, and being in an area that’s pretty conservative Muslim,” she admits. “It’s one of the hardest things I’ve ever done and may ever do.”

Her experience in the classroom highlights the differences. For example, her students are not accustomed to working with peers of the opposite sex, which can make group activities slightly awkward. They ask her about life in America, and although she wants to educate her students about a country few of them could afford to visit, she is cautious not to describe innocent activities that could be misunderstood.

“It’s a grant in diplomacy as much as it is a grant for teaching and cultural ambassadorship,” she explains.

Many students assume Americans have the same values they see portrayed on TV. “I would like to leave behind a better impression of America. I’d like to leave behind a bridge between the two countries that really isn’t there now.”

Learn more about her adventures at http://jennaindonesia.blogspot.com/.

Truong Nguyen ’08, left, a Peace Corps volunteer in Kepuhdoko, Indonesia, raised funds for an athletic facility in his village. He wants the students he teaches, the majority of whom are girls, to understand how playing team sports can empower them and teach life lessons.
Edward Valente ’97, a critical care registered nurse at Griffin Hospital, Derby, Conn., confers with his supervisor, Morgan D’Amore, RN.
One night in 1927, a New York University Medical School professor decided to check his anatomy lab to make sure all cadavers were covered after the day’s work. Opening the door, he was startled to find Frank Netter, notebook and colored pencil in hand, engrossed in an anatomical sketch. “You should be home studying,” the professor told Netter. “You will never pass the exam if you do not read the book.” But to Netter, just studying words in a book made no sense. He learned best from his pictures.

Netter did go on to become a surgeon and later, a world-famous medical illustrator whose pictures still inspire and teach medical students and others in the health care field. Fifty years after his professor’s admonishment, he was dubbed the “Michelangelo of Medicine” in a Saturday Evening Post article.

His more than 4,000 drawings have appeared in medical symposia, anatomy atlases and pharmaceutical company materials. Netter chronicled the emergence of open-heart surgery, organ transplants and joint replacements. In the early 1980s Dr. William DeVries asked him to be present at the first artificial heart transplant, a procedure that Netter illustrated in detail. His work is considered the gold standard for medical illustrations. Netter was still drawing and painting up until a year before he died in 1991 at the age of 85.

Netter’s first cousin, Edward Netter, and his wife, Barbara, decided to honor the artist by making a major gift to name Quinnipiac’s new medical school the Frank H. Netter, M.D., School of Medicine. A Fall 2013 opening is planned (see article on page 17).

“I can’t think of a better, more recognizable name in medical education than Netter, and so appropriate for a medical school,” said Dr. Bruce Koeppen, founding dean of the school. “I have to believe that every physician in the world at some point has used the illustrations Frank Netter created.”

As a first-year medical student at the University of Chicago, Koeppen studied Netter’s drawings in a series of atlases published by the Ciba Pharmaceutical Co. “Those atlases and others that came after are the choice of a majority of medical students because the student-friendly illustrations are comprehensive and clear, and Netter added color-coded sections and informational charts that others don’t have, to further the understanding of the material,” Koeppen noted.

“Edward was in admiration of the contributions made by Frank to medicine,” said Barbara Netter of her husband, who passed away in February 2011. Edward was the former chairman of Geneve Corp., a financial services holding company. A significant philanthropist much of his life, he donated his time and resources to many charities involved with science, education and human services. In 2001, the couple founded the Alliance for Cancer Gene Therapy, the only public charity focused exclusively on cell and gene therapy research.
Illustrations in demand

In medical school, Netter’s classmates would ask him to draw pictures for them to study, but they weren’t the only ones. His professors also clamored for his drawings to augment their teaching materials and illustrate their publications, enabling the young artist to earn extra money to fund his education.

Netter’s mother knew how much drawing meant to her son, but discouraged him from pursuing art as a career, suggesting medical school instead. And Netter himself presumed that when he became a doctor, he’d give up his artwork to devote himself to a surgical practice.

After an internship at New York City’s Bellevue Hospital, Netter began his surgical practice in 1933, at the depths of the Great Depression, which had left people with little money for medical care. Netter’s patient population dwindled, but he continued doing illustrations for doctors and pharmaceutical companies that needed pictures to explain the new drugs they were developing. One day, an advertising representative from a large pharmaceutical company asked Netter to make five pictures. With the intention of devoting more time to his medical practice, Netter tried to discourage the man by saying he would charge $300 for each of the pictures—he was getting about $50 per painting back then. But the ad representative misunderstood and called back to say the company would indeed pay $1,500 for each drawing! He picked up his paintbrush and never put it down.

Ciba Pharmaceutical contracted with Netter in 1937 to make pictures for literature it sent to physicians. In 1948, Ciba gathered almost 200 of the drawings into a book covering the anatomy, physiology and pathology of the human body. Netter also drew pictures for Ciba’s “Clinical Symposia” booklet series on current research for many years. Ciba gave them to doctors to use as educational tools.

One Clinical Symposia featured Netter’s pictures of the pioneering work of Michael DeBakey and his surgery of the aorta. Another focused on the work C. Everett Koop was doing in Philadelphia in the ’50s, operating on newborns with congenital defects. Still another was DeVries’ surgery of the first artificial heart implantation.

Francine Mary Netter remembers telling her father, “Dad, you are like Leonardo da Vinci,” and he said, “No, I am not, because Leonardo did his own research with anatomy and I had the greatest doctors in the world help me.”

Book tells his story

Netter’s daughter has spent the past eight years writing a book about her father’s illustrious life. The book is titled “Medicine’s Michelangelo: The Life and Art of Frank H. Netter, M.D.” “I thought he deserved to have a biography,” she said.

“He worked long hours in his art studio in the family home in New York, then on Long Island, and later in Palm Beach. To me it seemed that he spent all his time painting, but for those pictures, 90 percent of his time was spent researching, thinking and planning. He appreciated that people appreciated his work, and he was happy he could make a contribution of this sort to medicine. Naming the medical school after him is a great tribute,” she said.

The book, to be published later this year, contains plentiful details and anecdotes about Netter’s life gleaned not only from the author’s childhood memories, but from her father’s autobiographical notes, and from numerous interviews with his colleagues, friends and family, including Edward Netter.

In 1952, Ciba contracted with Netter to illustrate a series of atlases, and he worked on those well into the 1980s. Concurrently in the mid-80s, the company commissioned Netter to work on what it described as a first-rate atlas of anatomy using his pictures. When it was published, Netter considered his “Atlas of Human Anatomy,” now in its fifth edition, to be his crowning achievement, his “Sistine Chapel.”

Twenty years after his death, Netter’s work continues to be published. Koeppen collaborated with John T. Hansen 10 years ago on a book to showcase Netter’s work—“Netter’s Atlas of Human Physiology” (Elsevier 2002).

“I can’t think of anyone who continues to have such a profound influence on generations of students, even after his mortal life,” said Dr. Frederick Kaplan, the Isaac & Rose Nassau Professor of Orthopaedic Molecular Medicine and chief of orthopaedic molecular medicine at the Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania.

Kaplan worked with Netter for several years in the early 1980s on symposia booklets focusing on osteoporosis. He saw his first Netter picture while in high school, when his family physician gave him a copy
Construction on the Frank H. Netter, M.D., School of Medicine began in January on Quinnipiac’s North Haven Campus.

In October, St. Vincent’s Medical Center in Bridgeport, Conn., was named the principal clinical partner. Under the five-year agreement, St. Vincent’s medical staff is working with the leadership of the School of Medicine to design the clinical components of the curriculum and academic policies and procedures. Medical staff also will help recruit physicians to teach students. The chiefs of service in St. Vincent’s various departments are serving as the chairs of the corresponding clinical departments in QU’s medical school. St. Vincent’s has the following medical specialties: anesthesiology, cardiovascular medicine, emergency medicine, family medicine, medicine, obstetrics and gynecology, oncology, pathology, pediatrics, psychiatry, radiology and surgery.

At the end of 2011, 14 faculty and senior staff members had been hired for the school. Dr. Bruce Koeppen, the founding dean, said the school will submit a wealth of information to the Liaison Committee on Medical Education in April covering course descriptions, the facility, finances, faculty, admissions and grading policies and disciplinary procedures. Koeppen anticipates a site visit from the LCME in June that he hopes will lead to preliminary accreditation in October.

“At that time, we will immediately begin recruiting the first class of students,” Koeppen said, adding that he is expecting a quality charter class. Koeppen plans to teach physiology.

He said the chance to create something where nothing exists is very appealing to new faculty members. “We are not constrained to an existing structure of courses, and we don’t have to break down barriers to introduce interprofessional activities,” he said. The Center for Interprofessional Healthcare Education has been created, and Koeppen calls it the driving force to create experiences in which students from the many health professions programs Quinnipiac offers will work together on cases.

of the 1948 book. “At that moment, the world of medicine burst into life—not through words but through pictures,” he said.

In 1981, Kaplan had just joined the Penn faculty and had completed his residency when his supervisor asked him to draft a paper on osteoporosis, a disease not as well known as it is today. The paper was mailed to Netter in Florida. Shortly afterward, Kaplan received a call from the artist.

“He called and said, ‘Hi, this is Frank Netter; have you heard of me?’ I didn’t know whether to laugh or cry. I said of course I had,” Kaplan said. Netter told Kaplan the material was more extensive than he had anticipated, and asked Kaplan if he would be interested in collaborating on a symposia booklet on the topic. Kaplan flew south to spend a week with Netter.

“I watched him draw and we would take walks together to discuss how to illustrate the material. He told me, ‘Freddie, when I make a picture, I have to understand the details. You can talk around a subject, but you can’t talk around a picture.’

A few years later, Kaplan helped Netter with three atlases on the musculoskeletal system. “I considered it a privilege to work with a legend like Dr. Netter. He was a master, and he produced masterpieces,” he said, noting that Netter became a mentor and great uncle of sorts, and they kept in touch over the years.

Netter was invited to speak at Penn’s centennial celebration of its Department of Orthopaedic Surgery in 1989. More than 1,000 people attended. “He was passionate about learning and education, and he came alive when he talked to medical students,” Kaplan said.

How does Kaplan think Netter would have reacted to the school being named for him?

“I picture him leaning back in his desk chair, taking a cigar from his humidor, puffing on it and saying something about needing to make more pictures. He would have been thrilled.”
Media studies major Jennifer Sylvan was ecstatic to get a summer internship with the sales special events team at MTV, thanks to the help of Stephanie Fox ’02. Fox is manager of client services for Viacom Media Networks, which includes MTV.

“Everybody’s reaction was: ‘Oh my God, that’s so cool,’” says Sylvan, a senior.

Some of Sylvan’s friends associated the network only with the “Jersey Shore” program, where the reality cast lives in perpetual party mode. They would tease, “Did you see Snooki today?” referring to one of the show’s more popular cast members.

MTV quietly celebrated its 30th anniversary in August. While most people are familiar with MTV, few current viewers knew the network that gave us VJs, the Video Music Awards, and the world premiere of Michael Jackson’s “Thriller” music video. The network also popularized reality shows.

The date was Aug. 1, 1981. The first image on the new cable channel was of the Apollo 11 landing, but the flag had an MTV Music Television logo. The first video was the Buggles’ song, “Video Killed the Radio Star.” The idea that a TV channel could survive on music videos alone was unthinkable. MTV proved naysayers wrong—for a while.

Today, the logo no longer says music television, which is fitting considering music videos now appear on sister networks. MTV now is known for its programs. More important, MTV gave people around the world a visual way to experience music. The network also shaped attitudes about fashion, social issues and politics, and included young people, the network’s target audience, in conversations about these topics.

“MTV influenced society in a way that no other network was doing, and that was appealing to young people,” says Fox. Young people today may not appreciate that, she adds. Fox worked at the USA Network before she joined Comedy Central, organizing special events for the sales division. It later added Viacom’s music and entertainment group, which included MTV. The network has hosted many QU interns over the years.

Sylvan, who had a second, simultaneous internship with Comedy Central, admits never being a big MTV watcher. “I knew about the ‘Jersey Shore,’ but I was in college and I didn’t have time for television,” she explains.

Once Sylvan began working at the network, she began watching early music videos that played in the office and she learned about the network’s history—from its promotion of new artists to its original and often edgy programs. “I didn’t really know how big or how influential it was,” she says.

Its influence was apparent during the 1992 presidential election. Then-candidate Bill Clinton’s popularity soared after he played the sax during a town hall meeting on MTV, and not just among the 20-something viewers. That same year, in an effort to encourage young people to head to the polls, the network began the “Choose or Lose” campaign, which was launched this year as “Power of 12.” It includes political documentaries, a website and a fantasy election game with candidates as the players. It has joined Lady Gaga on public service endeavors to prevent bullying.

“Artists know that MTV gives them a place to voice their opinion. It is great that they are able to work together,” says Fox.

In her youth, Fox looked forward to watching the iconic Video Music Awards,
which started in 1984. Today, she brings advertising clients to events, such as the Video Music Awards, to see the placement of their advertisements, and has an opportunity to mingle with musicians and celebrities. Sylvan was most pleased with her work assisting the sales team for the awards program—which has been the scene of many controversial moments from Lady Gaga’s raw meat dress to Kanye West’s rant after swiping the microphone from award-winner Taylor Swift.

MTV doesn’t sidestep controversy. It has come under fire for some of its programming, such as the cartoon “Beavis and Butt-Head,” “16 and Pregnant” and its other wildly popular reality shows. From the beginning, the network has been on the forefront of social issues. The Real World San Francisco featured the late Pedro Zamora, one of the first openly gay HIV/AIDS activists on television. Recently, the network has organized presentations featuring the young mother from the show “Teen Mom” and a safe-sex advocate to help prevent unintended pregnancies. Some people may not like the topic, but Fox adds, “It’s a thought-provoking show.”

Fox appreciates the network’s addition of more scripted programs. This year MTV premiered the series “Teen Wolf” and the comedy/drama about a misfit teenager, “Awkward.”

“MTV had to change and evolve in order to keep viewers,” says Rich Barry ’90, vice president and creative director at Nickelodeon International. He oversees the look and feel of the Nickelodeon brand on 49 channels across the globe. “You can’t ignore when an audience responds to something.”

From a business perspective, he said the network had a couple of rough years before “Jersey Shore” hit, but has since improved programming. “I think it is going to be a successful network for a long time to come,” he says.

Barry was not surprised he didn’t see more hoopla over the anniversary. “It doesn’t make sense to talk about how old you are when you’re trying to attract young people,” jokes Barry, who doesn’t regularly watch MTV these days. As a kid on Long Island, he remembers watching music videos by the Police, Pat Benatar and the Cars. “Much of it was so new and fresh the first couple of years, a lot of folks sat and waited for a song to come on,” Barry recalls.

In 1991, Barry had an opportunity to work briefly on a documentary at MTV, before he joined Nickelodeon, which is owned by Viacom. It was grueling work, and he walked away feeling like the network wasn’t as glamorous as it appeared on television. Still, clocking hours at MTV was a prestigious gig—and still is.

Everyone works very hard, notes Sylvan, whose internship included researching trendy venues for events. MTV maintains a cool environment, she adds. “Everything is very hip and young. Even people who were of a different generation were very hip,” she says, adding with a giggle: “I felt like the uncool person.”
Keo Heng ’04 describes his job as a senior animator at Turbine Inc. as “fun and games.”
Keo Heng ’04 has helped create some of the world’s most popular online games, such as “The Lord of the Rings” and “Dungeons & Dragons.”

The interactive digital design major says his job as a senior animator at Turbine Inc. is all fun and games. “Let’s just say that my worst day at work would be my best day at any other job,” he says.

Not only does the job let him express his creativity through characters, but in his wardrobe as well. “It’s pretty laid-back,” he says. “I’m not wearing a suit and tie in the summer. I come in with sandals and shorts.”

Quinnipiac students who plan to walk in Heng’s sandals will do so one step ahead of the game. The University began offering a bachelor’s degree in game design and development last fall.

And the job outlook is good. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics predicts that demand for multimedia artists and animators will increase up to 14 percent in the next decade. An MTV survey found that 97 percent of teenagers play video games, and 55 percent of gamers now play on their smart phones or handheld devices.

“There are incredible job opportunities in the field, ranging from programming and graphic arts to music and writing, in much the same way a motion picture has many different elements,” says Rich Taylor, a spokesman for the Entertainment Software Association. ESA represents the interests of leading U.S. computer and video game publishers, including Nintendo, Disney, Electronic Arts, Sony, Microsoft, Warner Bros., and Sega.

“We need employees who do the creative and engineering tasks that make the games compelling, and there really is a wide range of jobs,” Taylor says.

The average annual compensation for game industry employees is almost $90,000. “It’s not only a field that is attractive to a lot of young people, but it also can be very lucrative for those who are successful at it,” Taylor adds.

Heng began as a computer science major at Quinnipiac, but he
switched to IDD when he found he could blend his gamer side with his creative side. “I found that it was more of what I wanted to do,” he says. “From there, I started learning about 3D and animation. I started to love it and pursued it.”

Almost eight years later, Heng has his dream job at Turbine, which is owned by Warner Bros. Home Entertainment Group. “I’ve looked at the Quinnipiac curriculum for game design,” Heng says. “Everything they are teaching one can use in the real world.”

Since graduating, Heng’s resume includes stints as an animator at Auvis Studios and as a senior animator at Sony Computer Entertainment America before Turbine. On the side, Heng develops iPhone games and teaches animation and game design courses at ITT Technical Institute.

“If you have enough talent and enough creativity to design something awesome, it’s easy to get your games out there compared to just a few years ago,” he says. “The stigma before was that gamers are nerds who stay at home all day, but that’s changed, especially with iPhones and all the casual games that have come out. My brother-in-law never played a game until he bought an Android phone a year ago. Now he plays more games than I do. Mobile games have opened a market to casual gamers that wasn’t tapped before.”

IDD Professor Greg Garvey, whose background includes working for Parker Brothers “in the Jurassic era of games,” began writing the curriculum for Quinnipiac’s new major last year. Garvey, who worked on translations for the Atari 800 of early popular games like “Mario Brothers,” “Donkey Kong” and “Q*Bert,” also designed graphics for games for Spinnaker Software.

In addition to heading the program, Garvey teaches courses along with Ira Fay, assistant professor of game design and development. Fay has a master’s in entertainment technology from Carnegie Mellon University and worked as a senior game designer at Electronic Arts prior to joining Quinnipiac. Fay also worked for Disney and Activision.

“I’ve always liked all sorts of games—card games, board games, sports, video games and storytelling games,” Fay says. “The best part about working in the video game industry is collaborating with people who have widely diverse skills to create fun.”

At Quinnipiac, students take courses in either game design—which focuses on the goals, rules and design of how a game is played—or game development, which explores characters, architecture, levels and sound. The program gives equal emphasis to analog and digital game design.
A 20-seat game lab serves as the program’s epicenter and allows students to develop and design everything from board games to prototypes for Playstation, Xbox, Wii and hand-held devices with three-dimensional graphics and animation.

“Creating analog games is an excellent way for beginners to develop their game design skills because it is relatively quick to create, test and improve an analog game,” Fay says. “If we used video games (exclusively), the same learning outcomes would require many more person-hours and a higher bar for technical skills.”

While many prospective game designers and developers dream of creating the next “Angry Birds,” “Call of Duty,” “Halo” or “Grand Theft Auto,” both Garvey and Fay say games go well beyond shoot-outs, crash-and-burns and the need for speed.

“Not only are games a significant way to spend our entertainment time and dollars, they also have the power to educate, create positive social change and motivate healthier lifestyles,” Fay says.

At Garvey’s suggestion, David Ives, executive director of the Albert Schweitzer Institute at Quinnipiac, used the Millennium Village Simulation game in his QU seminar class last fall. This “serious game” challenges students to manage the resources in a hypothetical African village beset by drought and disease.

Students in Fay’s fall Introduction to Game Design course created an improved version of Hopscotch, as well as dice, sports and role-playing adventure games. For an assignment called Pitch, Fay divided students into upstart game companies. Each team was required to design a video game, complete with a budget, marketing and development plans. The teams then made 20-minute presentations to representatives of Big Hit Games, a fictitious publishing company.

Greg Rava, a sophomore interactive digital design major from Long Island, N.Y., is minoring in both game design and development and music. Rava wore a snappy red bowtie as his team from Log Cabin Games pitched “Arcade Crusade,” a fantasy and adventure game for ages 13–24.

“I just like the idea of making games,” Rava said. “It’s a lot of fun. Game design and development is a newer major all over the place. It’s a big industry, and Quinnipiac is keeping up with the times. The idea of making your own games appeals to people, especially those who grew up playing games.”

Ashley Barbuito, a junior game design and development major from East Haven, said she began playing video games at the age of 9. “I’m a big nerd,” she said.

“It’s just awesome to see all the work, time and effort that go into a game. People play games for different reasons, whether it be for entertainment, education or just to waste time. Playing games is just a huge part of our culture.”

During the fall semester, Barbuito developed characters, buildings and even a pool table in 3D. In addition, she designed an analog game using cards and moveable pieces called “Hectic Housing” that she hopes will be used during orientation to help new Quinnipiac students organize their dorm rooms.

Barbuito’s career goal is to become a three-dimensional modeler for a major company. She’s on the right track.

“By senior year, we certainly hope students will be able to create games that might go viral,” Garvey said.
Rosalyn (Chaifetz) Ben-Chitrit ’87 owns Sanford Rose Associates, an executive search firm focusing on the medical technology industry.
There are two kinds of people, says Robert Gasparini, chief scientific officer at NeoGenomics Laboratories, a genetics testing company headquartered in Fort Myers, Fla. “Those who know someone with cancer and those who will know someone with cancer,” he explains. “As good as we think we can treat cancer, we’ve got crude tools,” says Gasparini, noting that only one in four patients typically responds to chemotherapy while the vast majority endure harsh side effects.

Because a tumor is the symptom of something that went wrong months or even years before its discovery, Gasparini’s team at NeoGenomics is researching ways to pinpoint when molecular errors happened that caused cancer cells to grow. Researchers currently have identified six “pathways” that lead to cancer. It’s something they will be working on over the next couple of decades, he says.

“There will be no cure to cancer with medicines or therapies or even ‘genomic bullets,’ but we will see a cure if we can stop it from growing,” says Gasparini, a New Britain, Conn., native who was the first in his family to attend college.

After graduating with a bachelor’s degree from UConn and a master’s degree in health science from Quinnipiac, he joined the genetic technology industry that was in its infancy. Early in his career, genetic tests were used to identify constitutional disorders caused by genetic factors, such as Turner Syndrome, cystic fibrosis and Huntington’s disease.

The testing evolved to include prenatal diagnosis, determining if a pregnancy was at risk for disorders such as Down syndrome or Tay-Sachs. By early 2000, the industry began to apply genetic testing to cancer.

“Around that time the human genome was finally decoded. We started to understand molecular genetics at a deeper level,” recalls Gasparini, who helped build and was director of the genetics division for US LABS before he joined NeoGenomics in 2004.

Because of this breakthrough at the DNA level, many cancers are classified based on their genetic components. For example, scientists identified five different sub-types of breast cancer. NeoGenomics offers genetic testing services that help determine the specific type of cancer and the probable survival rate. More important, the tests can identify the best cancer treatment based on a patient’s genetic makeup. The company is on the forefront of this type of personalized medicine.

“The results of these next-generation tests are going to help diagnose the cancer and help determine the course of therapy,” Gasparini explains. “For patients who have a really bad disease, the goal is to be able to offer them treatment alternatives.”

When Gasparini joined NeoGenomics as president and chief scientific officer, it had six employees. Under his leadership, it has expanded to include more than 230 employees and three labs in Nashville, Tenn., Irvine, Calif., and the company headquarters in Florida.

Gasparini also is dedicated to educating professionals about genetic testing. He has taught at universities and helped develop the national certification examination for genetic technologists and the accreditation process for educational programs.

“The master of health science program at Quinnipiac came at a critical time in the evolution of our understanding of the genetic sciences,” Gasparini says. “The MHS program allowed me to gain knowledge, experiences and a perspective of what it would take to at least try and make a difference in a cancer patient’s life. In the years since I graduated, I hope I have lived up to the standards set for me by the professors at Quinnipiac.”
Dina (Ballaro) Marks ’92, MAT ’94, was appointed housemaster at Shelton Intermediate School in Shelton, CT, where she lives with her two children. Dina was the school’s 2004 Teacher of the Year.

Michael Buscetto III ran as a write-in candidate in the 2012 mayoral race in New London, CT. He is an entrepreneur and co-founder of the New London Athletic Hall of Fame. He and his wife, Heather, have three children, Philomena, 16, Sara, 13, and Michael IV, 11.

Carl Haasper of Waterbury Center, VT, joined TD Bank as a store manager in Barre, VT. He is also an assistant vice president responsible for new business development, consumer and business lending.

Stephen Festa, MBA ’94, was named vice president-senior relationship manager in commercial lending at TD Bank in New Haven. He lives in Orange, CT.

Michelle (Vicinanza) Kish ’94, MS ’99, earned a transitional doctor of physical therapy degree from MGH Institute of Health Professions in Boston.

Joy (Policella) Norgaard of Larchmont, NY, obtained certification in hand therapy in 2006.

Sean Dickerson received the 2010 Social Action Hall of Fame award from the Tampa Chapter of Phi Beta Sigma. He is the president of 100 Black Men, which holds a four-week summer entrepreneurship program at Middleton High in Tampa, FL. He lives in Riverview, FL, with his wife and two daughters.

Sean Gordon and his wife, Amanda, announce the birth of their daughter, Casey Rose, on May 4, 2011. The family lives in Jersey City, NJ.

Vincent Mauro ’96, JD ’01, serves as counsel to the Senate Democrats in Hartford and was recently appointed fire commissioner in New Haven, where he lives.

Adam Cohen has been head coach of the Southern Connecticut State University women’s soccer team for the past six years. He lives in North Haven, CT, with his wife, Kristin (Davis) Cohen ’99, and their son, Braden.

Philip Goldfeld of Hillsboro, OR, is a managing member of Reality Marketing LLC. He and his wife, Annee, have five children, Samantha, Jacob, Mikal, Hanna and Alexandra.

Amanda (May) Sirica founded Sirica Marketing & PR, LLC in 2007. She is a member of the Connecticut Women’s Council and its communications committee and is the president of the board of managers for the Wheeler Regional Family YMCA. She is also a member of the Hartford Business Journal’s 40 Under Forty class of 2010.

Anthony Costanzo of Newington, CT, received the Hartford Business Journal’s 2011 40 Under Forty award, which recognizes outstanding young professionals in the Greater Hartford area. He and his wife, Tara, own Costanzo Clothing, a private label, custom-made clothing company.

Eric Levy is a principal/managing member of The Siderow Organization, a real estate brokerage firm he and his business partner started in January 2008, in New York City.

Robin Forte of White House Station, NJ, is the global director of supplier assurance for Catalent Pharma Solutions in Somerset, NJ.

Colleen Kirk is a marketing manager for Nestle in Florham Park, NJ. She lives in White Plains, NY.

Melissa Olson of New Britain, CT, is director of occupational therapy and assistive technology for Innovative Autism Network LLC in Plainville, CT. She also serves as an adjunct professor at Quinnipiac and Goodwin College.

Jessica (Sousa) Tuttle is director of marketing at Madison Square Garden in New York City. She is responsible for ticket sales, promotions and advertising for the Radio City Christmas Spectacular and works on touring family shows and Cirque du Soleil productions. She lives in New Rochelle, NY.

Jeffrey Cirillo and Angela (Logodicio) Cirillo ’02, MS ’05, have been married since June 2008. They are both certified public accountants and live in Southington, CT, with their one-year-old daughter, Addison Rose.

Matthew Pierce of Medford, MA, is senior vice president of commercial lending at Leader Bank, and was named a preferred lender by the Small Business Administration. He lives in Medford, MA, with his wife, Jenn, and their 19-month-old son, Ryan.

Larissa (Garcia) Ross works at ESPN and lives in New Britain, CT, with her husband, Jared.

Reyes Soto ’00, MPT ’02, and Elizabeth (Ponzi) Soto ’01 of Raleigh, NC, announce the birth of their daughter, Adriana Gabrielle, on Sept. 5, 2010. She joins her big brother, Reyes Matteo.

Rachel Greenberg wed Herman Olivera on July 16, 2011, at Waveny Park Mansion in New Canaan, CT.

Kimberly Hakkinen ’01 and Danielle Guinta ’01 were in the bridal party. Rachel owns a photography and videography company, A Storybook Image. The couple lives in Fairfield, CT.

Christopher Place is a stunt double for the character Gargamel in the move “The Smurfs,” which was
released in July 2011. His other credits include the TV show, “The Sopranos” and movies such as “Leatherheads,” “The Other Guys” and “The Good Shepherd.” He lives in Livingston, NJ.

Jacqueline (Stanco) Renaldo of Glen Cove, NY, and her husband, Jeff, announce the birth of their daughter, Olivia Margaret, on June 22, 2011. She was welcomed by her big sister, Juliette, and big brother, Michael.

Joseph Baglio ’02, MBA ’03, of Lindenhurst, NY, is a deputy executive director for Plainview Hospital. Joseph works with two fellow alumni, Nick Bartolotto ’01, MPT ’03, of Bayville, NY, who is a staff physical therapist and Nicole D’Addario ’05, of Setaket, NY, who works in patient and community relations.

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

April (Duval) Eriksen and her husband, Greg, announce the birth of their daughter, Aurora Claire, on Sept. 1, 2011. She joins her big sister, Savannah, 4, and big brother, Tate, 2, at the family’s home in Scituate, MA.


Lauren (Stanley) Huntsman and her husband, Jason, announce the birth of their daughter, Eileen Elizabet, on April 30, 2011. The family lives in Melville, NY.

Jesse (Rowley) Kohler is a sales representative for Kirkwood Printing in Wilmington, MA. She has two daughters: Abigail, 2, and Quinn Annabelle.

Jill Murray wed Jaime McWilliam on Oct. 16, 2010, at Wentworth by the Sea in New Castle, NH. The
Julie (Laflamme) Bousquet and her husband, Robert, announce the birth of their daughter, Katelyn Elizabeth, on May 12, 2011. She joins her big brother, Brendan, at the family's home in South Windsor, CT.

Jonathan Carlson is an anchor/reporter for WNCN-TV NBC-17 News in Raleigh-Durham, NC. He has worked for eight years at other television stations around the country.

Lauren Carmody wed Eric Grenier on Oct. 2, 2010. Lauren is a vice president for CJP Communications in Fairfield, CT. Alyson Heffernan ’03, MBA ’05, is the consumer and market insights manager for Unilever’s U.S. deodorant portfolio in Englewood Cliffs, NJ. April (Sonon) Henne ’03, MPT ’05, and her husband, Lee, announce the birth of their son, Logan Joseph, on May 10, 2011. The family lives in Mohrsville, PA.

Ann (Kovall) Martorana ’03, MAT ’04, and her husband, Thomas, announce the birth of their daughter, Alyssa Marie, on June 19, 2011. She was welcomed by her big brother, Tommy, 2. The family lives in Stratford, CT.

Michael McKelvey joined Stamford First Bank, a division of The Bank of New Canaan, as assistant vice president of commercial lending. He lives in Fairfield, CT, with his wife, Courtney.

Christopher Melinosky earned his medical degree at Penn State University. He is continuing his training with a neurology residency at the University of Maryland Medical Center.

Evangelos “V” Perdikouris wed Kristin Pedicone ’03 on Oct. 1, 2011, at Pine Orchard Yacht Club in Branford, CT. The couple met in the Commons dorm in 1999 while putting up SGA election posters. Speaking of proposal, V took Kristin back to The Commons to pop the question.

Christian Contreras ’04, MBA ’10, of Lynwood, CA, is an entrepreneur, an IS engineering manager and a specialist in software engineering for Wipro Technologies in Cypress, CA.

Nicole DiMassa is an associate director of new sales at ABC Television in New York City.

Alex Fucci of Trumbull, CT, a five-year veteran, was promoted to detective for the Fairfield Police Department in Fairfield, CT.

Burke Henderson and Allison (MacPhee) Henderson ’04 of Winter 2012
Trumbull, CT, announce the birth of their son, James Lachlan, on June 4, 2011.

Tyler Noyes and Teghan (Haynes) Noyes ’04 announce the birth of their son, Kieran Nicholas, on May 6, 2011. Tyler is a system administrator at Southwestern Vermont Health Care in Bennington, VT. The family lives in North Adams, MA.

Edward Pryor of Winston-Salem, NC, earned a master’s in computer science in 2006 and a PhD in biochemistry in 2011 from Wake Forest University. He is a research associate at the University of Virginia.

Danielle Roper ’04, MBA ’05, wed Matthew York ’05 on Nov. 20, 2010. The couple lives in Boston.

Brian Salerno ’04, MS ’05, is director of online programming and instructional design at Hesser College in Manchester, NH.

Sherry Watson,MSN ’04, of Redding, CT, received the Florence S. Wald Award for Outstanding Contributions to Nursing Practice, one of the Diamond Jubilee Awards given by the Connecticut Nurses’ Association. She is a clinical assistant professor of nursing at Sacred Heart University in Fairfield, CT. She is nationally certified in emergency nursing and is a sexual assault nurse examiner.

Anna Avagliano is a project manager for National Sign & Lighting in Old Bethpage, NY.

Allison DePaola ’05, JD ’08, of North Branford, CT, is part of the legal team at Cantor Floman in Orange, CT. She is also the vice president of Open Your Heart, Inc., a nonprofit organization helping Connecticut families in need.

Christine Dixon ’05, MOT ’07, is an occupational therapist at PS 36, Annadale; a therapist with Fit-tastic Kids, a yoga program for children with special needs; and a freelance therapist for children and adults. She lives in Staten Island, NY.
Brendan Lewis of Tewksbury, MA, is the editor of Andover Patch. He is an avid drummer/percussionist. Pamela (Festa) Mangini ’05, MBA ’07, of Hamden is the business administrator for Regional School District 13, which serves the towns of Durham and Middlefield in Connecticut.

James McCarty of Trumbull, CT, works at ABC News in New York City as a producer for the morning news and “Good Morning America.” Kristen Schultz ’05, ’06 of Wayne, NJ, works at Hillside Elementary School in Livingston, NJ, as a leave replacement elementary school teacher. Samantha Strausser ’05, MOT ’07, is an occupational therapist for Cross Country TravCorps in Hawaii.

Elizabeth Corridan, MS ’06, is a producer for CNN in Atlanta, GA. Robert DiGregorio of Staten Island, NY, is a certified athletic trainer at Dwight Morrow High School in Englewood, NJ. Lindsay Franke of Naugatuck, CT, earned her MBA and MSM degrees from Albertus Magnus College. She is a practice liaison for Robert D. Russo, M.D. and Associates Radiology in Shelton, CT.

Melanie Rankow married Nicholas Prescott on June 26, 2010. She is head of client relations for Colonial Reproductions in Edgarstown, MA. The couple lives on Martha’s Vineyard.

Daniel Ruggiero ’06, MHS ’10, of Brewster, NY, works for Greenwich Hospital in Greenwich, CT. Robert Tordella of Doylestown, PA, is an IT manager for Johnson & Johnson in Raritan, NJ.

Heather Truchelut of Montvale, NJ, received her MSN in family nurse practitioner magna cum laude from the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey in May.

Stephen Wang is a wedding photographer. He lives in Haddam, CT.

Tayf Badri, MS ’07, of West Haven, CT, is a cell biologist and biochemist who is working on a study at Yale University funded by Susan G. Komen for the Cure. The study is looking at the proteins in the blood of Latina women to distinguish which ones are more likely to develop breast cancer.

Jacqueline Barton of Hummestown, PA, is a pediatric nurse for Pediatric Services of America.

Marissa Burek of Jersey City, NJ, is a market research analyst at Fox News in New York City.

Andrew Gould wed Kristen Gennaro ’07 on May 29, 2011, in Manhattan, NY. The couple lives in Stamford, CT, where they are both attorneys.

Christopher Leasor ’07, MBA ’09, wed Erica Neiman ’07 on Aug. 27, 2011, at Trump National Golf Club in New Jersey. The couple lives in Manhattan.

Jeffrey Reisner ’07, MBA ’09, of Pleasantville, NY, was promoted to senior manager and partner at GroupM located in New York City. Brandon Skop, MS ’07, was pro-
promoted recently to account supervisor at Cooney/Walters Group in New York City, where he lives.


Maxwell Winitz of Sarasota, FL, is the 11 p.m. special assignments reporter at WWSB-TV in Sarasota. In addition, he does general assignment reporting for the evening newscast and fills in for the weekday morning anchors.

Jessica Fine is a senior media technician for Boston University in the College of Communication. She lives in Natick, MA.

Justin Gargiulo, MS ’08, of Austin, TX, is a multimedia designer/developer.

Todd Jensen, MHS ’08, is a captain in the fire department and a volunteer firefighter in the town of Farmington, CT.

Kristen McGuire of Nesconset, NY, is a program officer at the Institute of International Education in New York City.

Kathryn Regan was promoted to supervisor in the accounting and auditing department at Dworken, Hillman, Lamorte and Sterczala PC. in Shelton, CT, where she lives.

Adem Sengul, MBA ’08, is a marketing manager at Frost & Sullivan in San Antonio, where he lives.

Brian Simons earned a doctor of physical therapy degree from MGH Institute of Health Professions in Boston.

Ryan Wedge ’08, MPT ’10, of Portland, ME, accepted a research position at the University of Pittsburgh, where he will conduct a study on Navy Seals.

Heather Lodini, MS ’09, of Cromwell, CT, is an assistant director of social media at The Hartford.

Jenna Stafford ’09, MAT ’10, of Kenilworth, NJ, is teaching second grade at the Valley Road School in Clark, NJ.

Amy Tedesco of Rollinsford, NH, received a master of science in human development and family studies with a concentration in college student personnel from the University of Rhode Island.

Bridget Bielefeld of East Longmeadow, MA, is the corporate/community relations coordinator for the New York Yankees.

Mark Bouchard of Berlin, CT, was named Darrell M. West scholar at Brown University, where he is a student.

Eugenia Magill of Naugatuck, CT, is a commercial inside sales representative for Carrier Enterprise in Middletown, CT. She is also a student of healing touch, a Reiki practitioner, a member of the Connecticut Holistic Health & Lifestyle Alliance, an AFAA certified fitness instructor, a licensed Zumba instructor and a Hospice volunteer.

Michael Radomski of Saddlebrook, NJ, is the sports editor for Fort Lee Patch.

Victoria Reitano of Huntington, NY, was featured recently on The Today Show as the managing editor of UniversityChic.com.

Jessica Turlick Vincentz of Park Ridge, NJ, spent her summer interning at Intellitrends, LLC in Clarkson, MI.

Meghan Wallace of Marstons Mills, MA, is an executive assistant at Savant Systems, LLC in Osterville, MA.

Lorella Praci is working to get the federal Dream Act passed and participated at a student town hall meeting at Yale Law School asking questions of Janet Napolitano, secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Jennifer Swift of Carmel, NY, is a journalist for The Daily Yorktown.

Craig Tortorella of Syosset, NY, is the creator and founder of MYCOLLEGEYARDSALE.COM.

For Nathaniel Sharir ’06, 2011 ended on a decidedly comical note.

On Dec. 28, Ape Entertainment debuted Sharir’s comic book, “Gabe Sampson: Art Mailman.” And earlier in the year, Ape also published a “Richie Rich” comic he co-authored that can be downloaded using Ape’s new app for smartphones and tablets.

As a youngster, Sharir devoured Spiderman and X-Men comic books. He even conjured a story of his own about a mailman who wanted to brighten everyone’s day by painting pictures on their envelopes. He revisited this idea in Spring 2010, pitting his hero mailman against a ruthless crime syndicate and a tyrannical boss, and then pitching the story to Ape.

The comic company liked it and gave him the OK to continue. Sharir was invited to critique the artist’s sketches and made suggestions about color.

“It’s amazing to see my name in print in a comic book, and I’d love to come up with more stories and ideas,” he said.

After “Gabe” was in production, Jason Burns of Ape offered Sharir the opportunity to co-write a new “Richie Rich” story. “Yen for a Yeti!” was the result. The plot, set in the snowy Himalayas, revolves around Richie and the gang dealing with exotic animal poachers and a mystic order of ninja monks.

Both books are available online or anywhere comic books are sold.
Good Times

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

1. Bob '95 and Renee '95 Lucarelli, along with their son, Ryan, enjoyed the Homecoming tailgate on Oct. 15 on the grounds of the TD Bank Sports Center.

2. Louis Sapia '82, left, and Dan Biagioni '82 were among 150 alumni and parents attending the QU wine tasting at Gouveia Vineyards in Wallingford, Conn., on Nov. 9.

3. From left, David, Mattie (standing), Goldie, Ashleigh '11 and Joshua Paul enjoy QU's 18th Annual Day with the Boston Red Sox.

4. Among those who returned to the turf field for the annual lacrosse alumnae game on October 1 were, from left: Nicole Fiore '09, Tiffany Manzi '09, Kelly Bruneau '10, Katy Delagi '08 and Lyndsey Banach '10.

5. Frank Perez '82 and Michael Tagatac '84 connected at the annual Brian Vincent '86 Memorial Men's Soccer Alumni Game on Sept. 24.

6. Tobey '74 and Bill '73 Espowood enjoy a reception before the Nov. 2 performance of “Jersey Boys” at QU’s Night at the Theater in Hartford.

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