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Connecticut  
Higher Education  
Community Service  
Awards  
1993

 Board of Governors for Higher Education  
Department of Higher Education  
Andrew G. De Rocco, Commissioner

## CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS 1993

### *Connecticut Department of Higher Education Community Service Fellowship*

The Connecticut Department of Higher Education promotes higher education community service activities and recognition through its Community Service Fellowship. The Fellowship was established in 1988 by the legislature with a stated purpose to promote community service leadership and activities for students at Connecticut's institutions of higher education.

For the last five years, the Fellowship has initiated a variety of state-wide activities including creation of a Community Service Network. Through this network, each campus shares programs and information, successes and concerns. In addition, the Fellowship currently is administering a federal Commission on National and Community Service grant (\$100,000).

The Community Service Higher Education Awards have been established by the Department of Higher Education in 1993 in response to a need for state-wide recognition of community service activities. The Awards process has been developed and implemented by the Fellowship working with a committee of representatives from institutions of higher education. In future years, this welcome task of identifying and honoring our state's community service leadership will be part of the Fellowship's continuing duties.

The Department of Higher Education takes this opportunity to acknowledge the continued support and leadership from our state legislature on the issue of community service. The legislature has been years ahead of its time with its recognition and support. In addition, the Department of Higher Education acknowledges the support and partial funding for this Awards event from the Commission on National and Community Service.

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State of



Connecticut

By His Excellency LOWELL P. WEICKER JR., Governor: an

## Official Statement

Volunteers represent fundamental American values that are an integral part of our society. The spirit of helping and neighborly concern helped build this great nation.

In 1988 Connecticut established the first-in-nation Community Service Fellowship to encourage and expand opportunities for community service at our institutions of higher learning. As part of that encouragement, the Department of Higher Education is presenting the first Connecticut Higher Education Community Service Awards April 14.

The young people being honored today represent our youth who understand this nation's long tradition of civic responsibility and who have chosen to act on that understanding. Their institutions of higher education are to be commended for the encouragement and the atmosphere for service they have created.

Therefore, in tribute to these nominees and award winners and to every student who volunteers his or her time for the betterment of the human, social and environmental condition, I am pleased to designate April 14, 1993 as Connecticut Higher Education Community Service Day.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lowell P. Weicker Jr.", written over a horizontal line.

Governor.



STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
Department of Higher Education

April 14, 1993

Dear Award Nominees,

The Higher Education Community Service Awards were created to acknowledge publicly and with pride the selfless contributions you make to your communities and to your institutions of higher learning.

You will never know the many ways you touch the lives of others, but never forget that each of you serves as an example, a model of how much can be accomplished when an individual acts for others.

I wish you all the best that life can bring to you. On behalf of those you have helped and influenced, thank you.

Sincerely,

*Andrew G. De Rocco*

Andrew G. De Rocco  
Commissioner



LOWELL P. WEICKER JR.  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS  
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT  
06106

April 14, 1993

Andrew G. De Rocco  
Commissioner  
State of Connecticut  
Department of Higher Education  
61 Woodland Street  
Hartford, CT 06105

Dear Commissioner De Rocco,

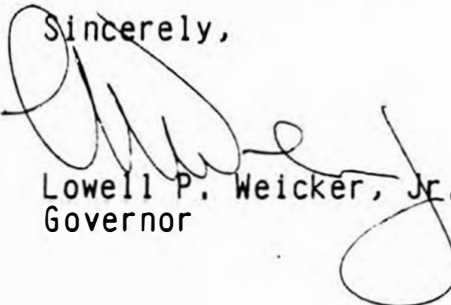
It is a pleasure and an honor to extend my congratulations to the recipients of the first Connecticut Higher Education Community Service Awards.

I am glad that the state of Connecticut created this fine opportunity to honor those college and university students who have shown outstanding leadership skills and commitment to community service. At the same time, we also recognize exceptional faculty, staff and community leaders.

The students honored today represent our leaders of tomorrow who understand civic responsibility and who understand first-hand the problems facing our society. I am proud of them and I hope they will proceed to dedicate themselves to our communities.

On behalf of the state of Connecticut, I wish the award recipients all the best for the years ahead.

Sincerely,



Lowell P. Weicker, Jr.  
Governor



## STUDENT GROUP NOMINEES

The Awards Committee considered activities and projects which included one or more of the following accomplishments: groups who were able to accomplish a clearly defined project which has aided individuals or groups in the community or has aided environmental causes; development of a unique or original approach to effective community service; educational and/or organizational activities which have substantially increased student participation in community service; development of projects which have promoted diversity or pluralism in the community; development and implementation of projects which address any number of pressing urban problems included in the areas of education, health care, or community revitalization.

\*Student Group Award winners are identified with an asterisk.

### **EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM**

*Central Connecticut State University*

For the past 24 years, the students who participate in the Educational Opportunity Program have held a Thanksgiving Food Drive the week before Thanksgiving. The students have collected truckloads of canned goods and thousands of dollars to help needy families in the Greater New Britain area. Some of the money is used to purchase meat certificates, and the canned goods become part of the Food Bank supply used during the holidays and throughout the year.

In the past six years, CONNCAP students have joined in the food drive programs and have collected canned goods and money at the New Britain High Schools.

### **ART HISTORY PROGRAM, OFFICE OF VOLUNTEERS FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE**

*Connecticut College*

The Art History Volunteer Program is a student run project through Connecticut College's Office of Volunteers for Community Service (OVCS). The program's goal is to give college art history majors the opportunity to share their love of art with local urban elementary school students. The program brings together people of very different backgrounds and provides a forum for positive interaction. In the New London Public Schools, 60 percent of the elementary students qualify for free or subsidized lunch and 50 percent do not demonstrate mastery on State reading and math tests.

Each week a Connecticut College student volunteer prepares a 30-minute presentation and shares it with classrooms in the New London school system. For example, an art history lesson can be prepared to illustrate the rise of cities in America or the frontier experience in the West. Students are exposed to a diverse range of artists representing many ethnic and cultural groups. Art history presentations cover a range of styles and artists, and the elementary school students are encouraged to look for themselves and identify a favorite work.

Because public school budgets have been severely cut, a subject like Art History is unavailable to most elementary school students. Without it, they lose a valuable creative

outlet and the chance to realize the importance art can have in their lives. Art history lessons can make their other studies come alive, and the program also lets them get to know a college student who is excited to interact with them. Both the art history volunteer and the classroom of elementary kids look forward to their weekly meeting. Through art, strong relationships are formed, the school's educational programs are strengthened, and positive community interaction takes place.

**\*CONNECTICUT COLLEGE OFFICE OF VOLUNTEERS FOR COMMUNITY  
SERVICE MENTOR PROGRAM**  
*Connecticut College*

Connecticut College OVCS Mentor Program is a student developed and coordinated program. The program consists of 35 mentors (Connecticut College students) and 35 proteges (community youth, ages 9-15). This program serves a protege population of 77 percent African American youth, 20 percent Hispanic youth and 3 percent White. The mentors are recruited through word of mouth and volunteer fairs.

There are two major programs within the overall mentor program REACH (Reaching to Expand and Challenge Our Horizons). The first program works with grades 5/6 and grades 7/8, and the second program is RAD (Recreational Alternatives to Drugs). The programs are a collaboration of efforts with Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Southeastern Connecticut (BB/BS) and the New London Parks and Recreation Department.

Each mentor/protege pair meets on the average five hours per week. Each pair meets alone for one hour per week, and the group meets once a week for a group program activity. Some of the activities include: visits to mentors' dormitory rooms, meals in the College dining hall, and trips to the College library, arboretum and athletic center.

The REACH Program works with youth to improve their reading and math skills. The RAD Program is part of an overall community program whereby members promise to refrain from drugs and alcohol and to remain in school. The proteges earn points for activities and receive awards during three award ceremonies throughout the year.

The mentors and proteges are nominated for this award because of their unwavering dedication and commitment to the overall Mentor Program goals: to build an effective link between the College and community which increases college student participation in community service, to provide role models for youth, and to foster positive self-esteem in youth.

**WINTHROP HALL RESIDENT ASSISTANT STAFF**  
*Eastern Connecticut State University*

Since August 1992, the Resident Assistant staff of Winthrop Hall at ECSU has been actively involved with improving relations between the University and the Willimantic Community. Following is a list of programs organized and sponsored by the Winthrop Hall staff: students were organized to work in Covenant Soup Kitchen, they worked with the Domestic Violence Program and raked leaves for senior citizens; they collected over 300 cans of food for the homeless shelter and raised money for the Windham AIDS

Outreach project; they tutored students at Kramer Middle School and bi-lingual students at Natcheng Elementary School; they participated in "Bowl for Kids' Sake" and "Bowl a Strike Against AIDS." In addition, the staff involved students in a fundraiser for Windham AIDS and a food drive for I-98 radio station. Students also worked for Holy Family Home and Shelter and assisted the Red Cross Blood Drive. These activities were the result of a dedicated Resident Assistant staff.

### **PHI THETA KAPPA**

#### ***Naugatuck Valley Community-Technical College***

During the 1992-93 academic year, Phi Theta Kappa has been actively involved with the Women's Emergency Shelter, Inc. of Waterbury, CT. This academic honors organization chose the shelter because of the group's belief that much of success comes from developing a positive self-image. Five days each month, the group actively solicits the college community for household goods, toiletries, paper products and juices. Members of the society deliver these items to the Shelter for distribution to the women and children using the emergency facilities.

From its inception, this volunteer project has had as its underlying goal the desire to assist children whose lives have been affected by domestic violence. Children from the Shelter have been taken to see theatre performances at the Higher Education Center in Waterbury. They have been presented with surprise packages at Halloween and gifts of turkeys and video cassettes at Thanksgiving and Christmas.

It is Phi Theta Kappa's belief that by helping to improve the self-image of the women and providing direction for the children where little now exists, the tendency for family violence to repeat itself in successive generations can be eradicated. This particular program has involved 15 student volunteers totalling approximately 75 volunteer hours.

### **\*STUDENT ACTION FOR MOTHERS IN SCHOOL (SAMS)**

#### ***Naugatuck Valley Community-Technical College***

Student Action for Mothers in School (SAMS) represents more than 200 women enrolled in higher education programs while receiving public assistance through Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC). The purpose of SAMS is to encourage and support AFDC women in enrollment and graduation from degree programs that lead to family self-sufficiency. Since its formation in December of 1989, SAMS has developed a wide network of activities that promote academic achievements, personal growth, and civic responsibility for the AFDC student. Services provided include peer mentoring and tutoring, support group meetings and publication of an informational newsletter that features ride sharing, babysitting assistance and a children's clothing exchange. SAMS has also created a relationship of mutual support with the Department of Income Maintenance (DIM) and area social service agencies.

In an effort to help other individuals break the cycle of poverty and welfare dependency, SAMS members are actively involved in providing a speaker service to community agencies, Head Start programs, and local radio and television talk shows. Their

message of hope, determination, and the value of education has encouraged many single parents to take the same positive steps to change their lives. SAMS members have also spoken before the state legislature concerning welfare reform and two members have been appointed to the DIM Commissioners statewide JOBS Advisory Committee.

The long range plan of the organization is to inform, support and assist AFDC parents toward self-sufficiency by means of education, throughout the state as well as the nation. Efforts towards this goal have resulted in the formation of SAMS chapters in other state colleges. Presently SAMS chapters are in operation at Norwalk Community-Technical College (formed 1991) and at Manchester Community-Technical College (1992). The students and advisors of SAMS continue to communicate and give assistance as needed. Also, both Capital Community-Technical College and Three Rivers Community-Technical College are in the process of starting SAMS chapters and are expected to have them in place this year. The dedicated efforts put forth by the AFDC students in achieving their educational goals as well as their willingness to help others has made SAMS programs very successful.

### **PHYSICAL THERAPY CLUB**

#### *Quinnipiac College*

The Physical Therapy Club of Quinnipiac College sponsors several unique activities that are planned, carried out and evaluated by students. Three activities are especially noteworthy.

The Annual Special Athletics program gathers from the greater New Haven area over 400 "special athletes" with disabilities to participate in non-competitive athletic events. The program promotes interaction between over 250 Quinnipiac students and the special athletes. Events range from group games to arts and crafts to relay races. The program is planned for seven months by an undergraduate committee of the PT Club. Aspects of the planning process include: sponsor identification, corporate sponsor solicitation, targeting of special athletes, volunteer recruitment, publicity, public relations and fund raising.

Wheelchair Basketball is a fundraiser for Special Athletics. It involves a professional wheelchair basketball team, "the Long Island Bud Kings." It takes place two months prior to the Special Athletics event to heighten awareness of accomplishments by those who are physically challenged, to raise funds for the Special Athletics, and to promote school spirit. The "Bud Kings" play a combined team of Quinnipiac faculty, staff and students who are not physically challenged. It is an event anticipated by many of the campus community.

The Handicapped Ski program is not sponsored solely by the PT Club, but it involves many PT members. This program matches Quinnipiac students with New Haven area students with physical and mental disabilities. Quinnipiac College students teach skiing to their "buddies."

### **BEST BUDDIES**

*St. Joseph College*

Best Buddies is a program that allows college students from St. Joseph College and the mentally retarded in the West Hartford community to form lifelong friendships. One college student and one mentally retarded adult are paired and given an opportunity to become friends. The relationships formed and the communication which develops are the goals of the program.

Activities in the program allow this friendship to grow. Some activities include bowling, watching movies, going to carnivals, shopping together at the mall, or eating out at favorite restaurants. The two buddies meet at least twice a month, and there are additional activities in which all buddies join together and participate.

A future goal for Best Buddies is to become more involved in serving the community. An activity being planned presently involves preparing and serving food at a nearby shelter. The objective is to allow the community to view the mentally retarded as active participants in the community, not as dependents.

### **JUSTICE/ACTION/SERVICE/PEACE COMMITTEE (JASP)**

*St. Joseph College*

JASP is the major community service organization on the St. Joseph College campus. It sponsors an annual Oxfam Fast, a Hunger Banquet to educate students and staff to the unequal distribution of food and other resources in the world, a baking marathon which supplies 200-300 dozen cookies for local soup kitchens. It also organizes St. Joseph College students for the Walk for Hunger.

The group sponsors activities for a girls' youth group from Sacred Heart Church in Hartford's North End. Past activities include a hike up Talcott Mountain, a Christmas Party on campus, and attendance at the college Spring Field Day. These activities expose elementary school children to the dream of attending college.

JASP has co-sponsored speakers with Amnesty International, presented educational forums on the conflict in Latin America, and done outreach on war and peace issues, especially in connection with the Gulf War.

JASP is the vehicle by which many St. Joseph students become involved in community service for the first time.

### **COMMUNITY ACTION BY STUDENTS TOGETHER (CAST)**

*Southern Connecticut State University*

Community Action by Students Together (CAST) is a collaboration between the six New Haven area colleges and universities (Albertus Magnus College, Gateway Community-Technical College, Quinnipiac College, Southern Connecticut State University, University of New Haven, and Yale University) and the City of New Haven to promote student community service among the 38,000 graduate and undergraduate students at the local institutions.

Each campus has a student coordinator who works with existing community service structures on the campus or helps to create community service programs if none exist. CAST hopes to facilitate the process by which students can get information about community service. CAST also facilitates assistance for students to start successful service projects and programs.

CAST volunteers address many issues area including literacy, hunger and homelessness, the elderly, domestic violence, the environment and AIDS. There is a particular focus on children and youth, and each campus is working to develop a service project working with young people from surrounding communities. In addition, CAST runs a summer intern program for college students focused on working with local inner city youth.

CAST also strives to foster a positive exchange of ideas among students from all the campuses. Once or twice each semester, students join forces in a group service project to benefit the community. This provides a great opportunity for students to get to know one another, discuss community service and enhance the local area.

### **THREE RIVERS COMMUNITY-TECHNICAL COLLEGE ACCOUNTING SOCIETY** *Three Rivers Community-Technical College*

The Three Rivers Community-Technical College Accounting Society provides assistance to homeless families at the Kirk-Bride Lang Shelter. The Accounting Society provides Christmas stockings filled with coloring books, crayons, tooth brushes and tooth paste, story books, small soft balls, small wrapped toys, and slipper socks for children residing at the shelter. The group also provides slipper socks and small gifts for the adults. Members of the Accounting Society hold fund raisers regularly to support this project and also have requested donations from local businesses.

Each Easter the Accounting Society assembles and donates Easter baskets to the children, and each basket includes a small stuffed animal and traditional Easter candy. In addition, the Accounting Society has provided play equipment, storage containers, and linens for the shelter. Currently, the Accounting Society members are seeking donations of new or used children's car seats to enable the staff members at the shelter to transport the younger children.

In addition to their shelter activities, the members of the Accounting Society visit local nursing homes at Easter and bring flowers to the residents.

### **ZETA THETA CHAPTER OF KAPPA KAPPA GAMMA** *Trinity College*

The members of Zeta Theta have made it their goal to formulate and maintain strong bonds with members of the surrounding communities. By planning and participating in a variety of projects over the past year, Zeta Theta has made significant progress in achieving its goal.

The group's first project involved visiting Avery Heights, a convalescent home located in the Hartford area. Near the Easter holiday, the group visited with and distributed Easter baskets to the many elderly men and women whose families were not

located nearby. The afternoon was very touching for both Kappa sisters and residents at Avery Heights. It also served to promote an interest in health care institutions among Kappa members.

The next event was participation in the Hartford Walk Against Hunger. Sisters were sponsored by friends, teachers, and team members. A group of Kappas had a great time completing the 4 mile walk around Hartford, and at the same time they contributed to the effort to improve the deteriorating conditions affecting many residents of Hartford.

Each year Kappa participates in a Fun Fair organized by Trinity College for the children of Hartford. This year the group ran a ring toss booth and an art show with pictures drawn by children from the Trinity Child Care Center. Proceeds from the sales of the children's art were donated to the Child Care Center. In addition, this year Kappa participated in a campus-wide effort to provide a safe Halloween for community children; and for Valentine's Day, Kappa sponsored a fundraiser to benefit The Interval House, a local shelter for battered women and their children. Many sisters also participate individually in community service activities involving the elderly, homeless, and youths, and a particularly rewarding experience has been a tutoring program at the Ramon E. Betances elementary school. Overall, participation in community service events has promoted awareness and interaction with members of the Hartford community.

#### **HUMAN SERVICES CLUB**

##### *Tunxis Community-Technical College*

The Human Services Club (HSC) started the year meeting with the Executive Director of the Plainville Community Pantry to determine that organizations's client needs. As a result the Club decided to sponsor a campus-wide toiletries drive rather than a food drive. Toiletries were determined to be essential for personal and/or family hygiene. Such items as toothpaste, soap, shampoo, shaving cream, feminine personal hygiene products, toilet paper, Q-tips, tissues, and deodorant were collected. In addition infant pampers, other infant care products and infant formula were collected.

The second campus wide drive in November and December focused on coats, hats, and gloves for all age groups. The group planned to donate the coats to the Salvation Army but later decided to donate them to the Bristol Community Organization (BCO) because BCO would not require the clients to make a donation for the clothing items. A dry cleaner in the area heard of the students' efforts and donated unclaimed items to the project.

A third major event for the HSC has been planning and organizing two Campus of Difference diversity trainings. The first training (April 2) is directed toward the Tunxis community. The second training (April 16) will be given to teams of individuals from other Community-Technical Colleges. The goal is to create awareness of racial, ethnic, and religious diversity.

The HSC has worked hard this academic year to carry out these three major activities. The Tunxis community can be proud of these future human services professionals.

## **MOUNT SAINT JOHN'S SCHOOL FOR BOYS MORAL INSTRUCTION** *United States Coast Guard Academy*

The Mount Saint John's School for Boys Moral Instruction program matches two cadets with a group of approximately ten "at-risk" boys. They discuss a wide range of moral issues weekly for one hour. The program's objectives are to provide the boys role models of ethical and moral action, to provide moral constructs that have been absent from their development, to present alternative ways of behavior so that they can improve their lives and to give them individualized attention from people who care about them and their success.

The boys typically live in urban areas where their needs for guidance are not met. Unfortunately, public schools have little time to stress moral and ethical development. This program fills that void and introduces the boys to necessary moral and ethical life-skills.

In addition to the weekly class at the school, cadets host trips to the Academy for special events such as football games, tours of the Coast Guard Tallship EAGLE, and a candlelight ceremony at Christmas. This demonstrates opportunities for the boys to excel and to help others in their lives.

This program is extremely free-form, allowing the cadets to develop their own lesson plans and activities with minimal guidance. It includes contact at both the school and the Academy. The program results in several benefits. The boys profit from being taught the importance and positive results of ethical action. The cadets benefit from a terrific experience of dealing with others and learning firsthand the personal fulfillment from volunteering their time. On average, the six cadets teaching the class give more than 30 hours each semester helping to improve the educational experience of boys from Mount Saint John's School.

## **SPECIAL OLYMPICS UNIFIED VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT STAFF** *United States Coast Guard Academy*

Each year Special Olympics sponsors a unified volleyball championship. An integral part of the Olympics is the qualifying tournament hosted by the Coast Guard Academy. This tournament allows the teams to assess their playing level against competitors prior to entering the state tournaments.

Beginning in late August, cadets began to plan for this year's early November event. Planning included reserving the necessary facilities, arranging for medical personnel to be on site, coordinating meals for both volunteers and athletes, setting up schedules for the day, and developing team handbooks. These tasks were accomplished by the tournament director and a committee of six people. In addition, over 100 other volunteers were recruited to contribute during the planning stages and on the day of the event.

The tournament was held on Sunday, November 8, 1992 from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm with 30 teams in attendance. The entire day was run by cadets from the Academy. Once registration was complete, the registration staff efficiently switched over to being an information center. The round robin play was refereed by cadets who ensured that all teams were treated to a maximum amount of playing time. The day was capped off by an award ceremony recognizing the individual athletes and their successes that day.

In addition to the tournament, cadets were also responsible for ensuring that participants had adequate activities when they were not playing. Each team was provided with an escort who gave tours of the Academy, found space for extra practice and helped cheer on the teams. The day was a complete success. Every cadet present volunteered his or her time—a total of over 600 hours—out of a sincere desire to help others.

### **MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY GRADUATE STUDENTS**

*University of Connecticut*

The students being nominated for this award are all masters candidates in the Marriage and Family Therapy Training Program in the School of Family Studies. Working under the auspices of the Center for Marital and Family Therapy, each student provides over 300 hours of direct service, including individual, marital and family therapy to families living in Storrs and its surrounding communities. Often in a serious crisis, these families turn to the Center at a time when many feel their lives are falling apart. As clients, they present with such problems as severe depression, loss of job, failing marriages, increased alcohol and drug abuse (especially among teenagers), family violence, and child abuse and neglect. In the past five years (the period from 1987-1992), the Center has served over 800 families living in the greater Storrs area.

With the costs of private mental health care so prohibitive, many families choose the Center for the sliding fee scale, with the lowest fee starting at \$15 per session. Additionally, many of the Center's clients are referred by friends or family members who have benefited from services in the past. The graduate students who work at the Center offer families a unique systems oriented approach, one that fosters competence, de-emphasizes pathology, and utilizes community resources.

As director of the Center for Marital and Family Therapy, Richard Meth has the responsibility to consistently monitor the work of the graduate students. Many work one or two evenings per week to better accommodate to the family's work schedule. He is impressed by the degree of professionalism and commitment that each student exhibits. In addition, students have helped to identify and create new services to meet the clients' current needs. For example, students have established two support groups for recently separated or divorced men and women. Both groups have been important contributions to the Center's services.

Recent times have been very tough for families as they try to cope with numerous stressors. Mr. Meth believes that the graduate students have made a significant contribution to the families, particularly in helping them develop their own coping skills and resources. It is for this reason that as a group committed to strengthening the family, they deserve the recognition that is offered by the Connecticut Higher Education Community Service Award.

### **URBAN SEMESTER PROGRAM STUDENT PARTICIPANTS, PAST & PRESENT**

*University of Connecticut*

The Urban Semester Program has existed at the University of Connecticut since 1968. Each year, twenty to twenty-five students participate in the program which consists of a one-semester elective program. While in the program, students live in Hartford in

housing arranged by the University and perform 3-1/2 days per week supervised internships in public service and state and local government agencies in Hartford. Two weekly seminars on Urban Issues complement the field experience. The group of students changes each semester, so that by the end of 1993 it can be estimated that approximately 400 to 500 students have participated in the program since its inception. Students receive 15 credits for their semester's work.

The Urban Semester Program typically attracts students from social and behavioral sciences: sociology, political science, psychology, family studies, economics and other social sciences. Occasionally students from other majors participate. The students have a full choice as to the agency or organization where they will intern, but generally internships correspond to their majors and their career interests. Through the program, students are exposed to the reality of urban life and the diversity of Hartford's population. For students from suburban and rural areas, this is an opportunity to experience first hand the issues and problems facing cities. Stereotypes, pre-conceived notions and bias are confronted and new levels of understanding achieved. White students work with people of color and often take supervision from men and women of color who lead the organizations in which the internships are performed. Students of color experience urban life in new ways, gaining information and experience in organizations of which they were previously unaware. Suburban students of color often find that through the Urban Semester Program, they become aware of how to give back to the communities whose support afforded them the opportunity to be in college.

Throughout the twenty-five year history of the Urban Semester Program, dozens of organizations and agencies have sponsored student internships. Several which have been consistently used in recent years include: Center City Churches, Connecticut Superior Court—Juvenile Matters, Citizens Research Education Network, Neighborhood Legal Services, Salvation Army Family Service Bureau and Marshall House Shelter, State Representatives and State Senators from urban areas, the YWCA of Greater Hartford, the West Middle School Committee and many others. Agencies often approach the program director seeking students, and the program has a great deal of value to the agencies which supervise interns.

Urban Semester offers students the opportunity to experience diversity, make a contribution to public service, obtain a career development opportunity, and explore new avenues of personal growth and development. Alumni of the program often remain in Hartford and contribute afterwards through their own careers.

## **PUBLIC INTEREST LAW GROUP**

*University of Connecticut, School of Law*

The University of Connecticut Public Interest Law Group (PILG) is an organization of Law students dedicated to providing legal services to individuals, groups and causes traditionally underrepresented in our legal system. PILG has several functions. One is to provide summer grants to law students who work in the public interest. Each year, PILG raises funds from the law school community, and from Connecticut's legal community, in order to provide these grants. Through PILG grants, student have provided pro bono legal services to the people of Connecticut through a variety of organizations, including The Connecticut Fund for the Environment, the Connecticut Public Defender,

New Haven Legal Assistance, The Legal Aid Society of Hartford, and The Connecticut Women's Education and Legal Fund.

In addition to enabling students to provide pro bono legal services, PILG has a community outreach function. Through PILG, law students reach out to and serve the surrounding community in a variety of ways. Recent projects have included providing assistance to a local Habitat for Humanity project, and collecting food and clothing for a local shelter for homeless people.

Finally, the PILG strives to keep issues of public interest law alive on campus, and to educate fellow law students about the importance of public interest work.

**\*SOUTH PARK INN (HOMELESS SHELTER) MEDICAL CLINIC**  
*University of Connecticut, School of Medicine*

Students at the University of Connecticut Medical School have participated in a variety of community service activities since the school first enrolled students in 1968. The development of the Community-Based Education Program in the early 1980's facilitated student involvement with community organizations and supported work with underserved populations. The student-run South Park Inn Homeless Shelter Primary Care Clinic evolved at this time.

In 1985, University of Connecticut medical students developed a clinic at the South Park Inn to serve the needs of the homeless population residing at the shelter. Today, the project involves over 150 medical students in all four years of medical school, and 30 physicians from the Hartford area. These medical students and physicians see approximately 1,000 patients annually at the shelter clinic.

The clinic is entirely voluntary and is operated by a student board who schedule physician preceptors, medical students, and obtain necessary medical supplies. The clinic is in operation every Tuesday and Thursday evenings for approximately three hours, during which time patients are seen by both medical students and physicians. The clinic is stocked with general medications that are dispensed free of charge; patients requiring more involved treatment are referred to Hartford Hospital.

This clinic is the only source of medical treatment for most of the residents at the shelter and thus it serves a critical function for intervention, prevention and general health counseling. The clinic is funded by grants and fundraisers run by the students. This year's student board has done an exceptional job operating the clinic.

**CAMPUS CORPS: STUDENT COORDINATORS**  
*University of Connecticut, Stamford*

The students serving as student language coaches and general coordinators are assisting in creating an ambitious community service program in the Stamford area. These students are recruiting and coaching UConn students of Spanish and French to serve as tutors in the Spanish and Haitian Community Centers. The language coaches and coordinators also work at the Centers and organize enrichment activities for the children. Future enrichment activities will include projects designed by students and

faculty from a variety of disciplines represented on the campus. In the future, adult activities will be added to those designed for children. In addition, the coordinators and language coaches have organized food and clothing drives to benefit the community.

### **EDUCATIONAL MAIN STREET TUTORING PROGRAM**

*University of Hartford*

Educational Main Street (EMS) is the University of Hartford's community service initiative which connects teachers and students from all levels of education (kindergarten through university) in an array of teaching and learning opportunities. This "educational park" includes three Hartford Public Schools—Annie Fisher, Lewis Fox and Weaver High School—as well as the University of Hartford in many programs and activities.

The EMS Tutoring Program was initiated in the Fall of 1990 with forty tutors and 20 participating public school teachers. Currently, 140 University of Hartford students volunteer to tutor one-on-one with small groups and as teacher assistants in over 80 classrooms (K-12). In addition, cross-grade tutoring components are in place. In the elementary school, sixth grade students assist third grade students in the "Reading Club." University tutors monitor this process. The middle school engages seventh and eighth graders in peer tutoring in the "Homework Club." The "Homework Assistance" program engages high school students and University students in all subjects. Continued program expansion is prompted by the University's commitment to promoting personal and civic responsibility through community service, and by an increasing number of requests from teachers and students for student hours.

There is an expressed need for individual attention for Hartford's school children. School budget cutbacks, large class sizes, and lack of parental and community volunteers create a need to intervene with an important and readily available resource, the students. Tutoring adds measurably to the academic and social growth of all participants. Students who serve as tutors (both high and low achievers) learn to accept responsibility and increase their sense of self-worth and social understanding. With academic growth through reinforcement, enhanced school motivation is eminent. Enhanced awareness of the needs of others and the power of community service and responsible citizenship benefit both tutors and tutees.

### **THE FELLOWSHIP**

*University of Hartford*

*Hartford College for Women*

The Fellowship Group, with help from the Campus Minister and Student Activities, has sponsored two parties for the children and mothers from Family Life, a program based in Hartford serving a group of teenage mothers who have decided to finish high school and continue their education. The first party was a Halloween celebration including costumes and entertainment for the children and mothers. The second party was a Holiday party where the children were given gifts.

Sponsoring these parties was the Fellowship's way of making the holidays special for the children and their mothers. Many of the mothers are not older than members of the Fellowship, and the occasion allowed the mothers and students to interact with questions for the students about their classes, the college and other aspects of their lives.

## YALE DRAMAT CHILDREN'S THEATER

*Yale University*

Christina Ann de la Cruz described her group program as follows, "Remember playing 'I'm a Little Teapot' and the 'Hokie-Pokie'? Did you ever dress up in old clothes from the attic, use the couch for backstage, and 'perform' your favorite story for an ever-so-patient audience of parents and siblings? Those were the days: innocence, imagination and devotion to an art that had us standing proudly in waste paper baskets with underwear on our heads. That earnest and unself-conscious ridiculousness of singing silly songs at the top of our lungs, pretending to be clouds and washing machines, hopping like a frog and growling like lions, having fun doing it all—that's what Yale Dramat Children's Theater is all about."

Dramat Children's Theater (DCT) is a non-profit organization dedicated to bringing the magic of theater, movements, mime and make-believe to children and children-at-heart in the Yale-New Haven community. Founded by Yale students in 1976, the group concentrates on the children of New Haven who have little access to arts programs. The group produces at least 5 shows a year, conducts workshops around the city, sponsors a playwriting contest and sets up a resident summer company. Other projects include Boppity-Bop magazine, Hands On!, and Valentine's Day Tuck-Ins.

Each show performs for one weekend on the Yale campus, and then tours for an additional week to schools, day care centers, afterschool programs and hospitals. Each show has a limited budget, so the group prides itself on thrifty creativity: masks made out of milk jugs, wigs out of rubber gloves, cars out of cardboard, and trees out of people.

The group sponsors numerous workshops each semester to help children experience theater through doing, not just watching. There are 15 different groups this semester. Each group consists of approximately five Yale students who travel once a week to their location. The group works with the children for about one hour playing improvisational and/or song games, depending on the ages of the children. In the past, workshops have been given in local elementary schools, a center for children from problems homes, the YMCA, St. Raphael's Hospital and a juvenile detention center.

DCT also runs a playwriting contest for the children of New Haven. The 1993 Playwriting Contest received plays from kindergarten to twelfth grade. A special contest for the fifth grade is run in conjunction with the comprehensive arts program. Winning playwrights and their classes see their plays directed and performed by Yale students.

Finally, DCT sponsors a summer theater company, a six-member troupe that spends about seven weeks creating and performing three shows for over 60 touring performances in and out of New Haven.

## INDIVIDUAL STUDENT NOMINEES

The Awards Committee considered activities and projects which included one or more of the following accomplishments: individuals who were able to accomplish a clearly defined project which has aided individuals or groups in the community or has aided environmental causes; development of a unique or original approach to effective community service; educational and/or organizational activities which have substantially increased student participation in community service; development of projects which have promoted diversity or pluralism in the community; development and implementation of projects which address any number of pressing urban problems included in the areas of education, health care, or community revitalization.

\*Individual Student Award winners are identified with an asterisk.

### **GEORGIA GOLDBURN**

*Albertus Magnus College*

Four years ago, as a "frehperson" interested in working with children, Georgia Goldburn initiated Community Corner. Community Corner is now the recognized volunteer action center on the Albertus Magnus campus and has successfully organized a tutoring program at the Dixwell Community (Q) House, a gathering place for African-American youths. Students from Community Corner tutor students from Q-House for two hour sessions. Community Corner also has placed students in other tutoring projects such as the current program at Waxler School.

Students active in Community Corner serve lunch once each week at the Downtown Soup Kitchen. They also assist the Campus Ministry office in organizing the annual Stone Soup Race which is a fundraiser for the Soup Kitchen. In addition to these activities, Community Corner students formed a sub-committee called Coalition for Cultural Diversity and sponsored two forums entitled "Racism on Campus" and "AMC/ELS - Bridge the Gap" to address cultural conflicts on campus.

Last year, in partnership with Community Actions by Students Together (CAST) the group assisted in organizing clean-up projects in the community. This year the group worked with CAST to begin the AMC mentorship program pairing Albertus Magnus students with Lincoln Bassett students. As the community service organizer on campus, Ms. Goldburn is directly involved with all these projects and has initiated many of the programs.

### **JOHN BADGER**

*Asnuntuck Community-Technical College*

John Badger is a charter member, workshop coordinator and fundraiser for Students Against Substance Abuse groups. He also is a peer counselor/Human Service Group member and a P.T.K. group member (active). He is a volunteer at Enfield's Alternative Incarceration Center and deals with substance abuse and job development topics. He also volunteers with the Counseling Cooperative's Batterer's Group. Mr. Badger is a public speaker for substance abuse and recovery topics at area high schools (Suffield, East Windsor, Stafford, Windsor Locks), a facilitator and sponsor in area Self-Help groups (N.A., A.A.), and also serves on the Enfield Fourth of July Celebration Committee.

Mr. Badger is president of Enfield Men's Slo-Pitch Softball League (500 members). He is an Enfield Park and Recreation Sports Official for all sports, and he assists with the Enfield Kids' Fishing Derby. He is a charter Board Member of the Brian Fisher Memorial Softball Tourney, an annual event to generate scholarship funds for students at both Enfield high schools. He is the creator and director of the Big Brother/Big Sisters Benefit Softball Tourney and is a volunteer with the Enfield Girls Senior Softball League.

#### **ROSEMARIE PAYNE**

*Capital Community-Technical College*

Rosemarie Payne has always been concerned with the well-being of others. Her faith and dream of a world with equality and peace is the inspiration for her community activities. She recently had two minor children placed in her home because of their abusive living conditions. She believes there is never too little or too much a person can do to make this a better world for someone.

Ms. Payne has coordinated numerous activities including the Community outreach food drive, four campus rallies concerning racism, and a rally for education and awareness of AIDS/HIV.

Ms. Payne volunteers at the Salvation Army Food Pantry, and she also made the City of Hartford aware of a hazardous intersection. Her letters and petitions resulted in changing the intersection

#### **GINA R. PETTINICO**

*Central Connecticut State University*

Gina Pettinico's primary volunteer work experience at Central Connecticut State University is with the Partnership for Success program. This program, sponsored by Campus Ministry, seeks to promote growth and friendship by pairing college students with middle and high school students.

Each week, twelve students from the Mount Pleasant housing project in New Britain come to the CCSU campus where they spend two hours with their "college buddy." During this time, the mentor and student experience various aspects of college life and develop a close friendship. Topics explored run the gamut from applying to college and financial aid to birth control and AIDS awareness. The students, mainly minorities, are encouraged to consider college as a future option. The mentors stress that college is a very real possibility for any of the students. Ms. Pettinico has been involved in the program as a mentor for the past two years. This year, she also is assisting in developing presentations for the group concerning alcohol and drug abuse.

Ms. Pettinico is active in various other community service projects. Since September, she has been corresponding with a Cuban woman in Miami whose family lost their home and business in Hurricane Andrew. CCSU students under the auspices of Campus Ministry have raised money to aid this Florida student and her family in reconstruction. Ms. Pettinico feels that social outreach programs such as this promote greater understanding among cultures.

Ms. Pettinico has had the opportunity to work in the Friendship Center, a homeless shelter and soup kitchen in New Britain, and she has been involved in the orientation program at CCSU for nearly three years. Central Orientation Leader and Advisor (COLA) consists of approximately 60 students who lead orientation for new students each Fall. COLAs assist new students as they become accustomed to college life and encourage them to become involved in campus activities. Currently Ms. Pettinico is serving as the co-chairperson of the COLA selection committee which is responsible for recruiting, interviewing and choosing new COLAs.

The community service and social outreach programs that Ms. Pettinico has described are a very important part of her life.

**\*JANET CARDONA**

*Connecticut College*

Janet Cardona has been involved with the Office of Volunteers for Community Service (OVCS) since the fall of 1989. Her freshman year, she prepared and translated documents to provide correspondence between the Spanish-speaking community and the college community and administration. Her interest in community service was sparked from this experience. She helped plan and organize Connecticut College volunteer programming and has been an Urban Intern for the past three years. She is a double major in Urban Studies and Hispanic Studies. She is currently a volunteer intern at the Winthrop Apartments for field study in her Urban Studies major. Her experiences in the Office of Volunteers have had a major impact on her career objectives.

The OVCS component of Ms. Cardona's experience is The Winthrop Neighborhood Development Program. This program works on hunger and homeless related issues in the New London Community and has a continual commitment to urban issues at Winthrop Apartments. Ms. Cardona organizes volunteer services for the following programs: Spring Clean Day, Adult Computer Literacy Program, and Afterschool Tutorial Program. In late April, Spring Clean Day is a beautification and neighborhood networking project followed by a picnic at Winthrop Apartments. This program is sponsored by local businesses and industries. Last year OVCS received over \$1,500 worth of donations in planting, cleaning, food and recreational supplies. Ms. Cardona also has initiated participation in the Spring Clean Day Fast where college students skip one meal as a fundraiser for this event. Last year the group raised over \$4,000 for hunger and relief programs in New London. This was the greatest success rate ever in the history of the Cleanup!

The Adult Computer Literacy Program is located at the Winthrop Apartments. Ms. Cardona implemented this program and has provided volunteers for the past two years. College volunteers teach adults basic word processing skills on two Apple Macintosh computers. The classes meet two days a week for two hours each day. Ms. Cardona is active in the Afterschool Tutorial Program which also is located at the Winthrop Apartments. Children from grades K-6 meet Monday through Friday in a community room. College volunteers provide homework assistance as well as learning activities for the children on Thursdays and Fridays for two hours each day.

Finally, Ms. Cardona is the first Urban Intern to work at Winthrop Apartments for field study as an Urban Studies major. She assists in implementing programs provided by the New London Housing Authority. She is a member of Focus Group for Youth

Non-Violence Conference, she provides translations for Spanish speaking residents, she has done research for a new Bicycle Recycle Program, and she is liaison for the Residents Association and The Winthrop Family Support Center and OVCS.

Ms. Cardona's involvement with these community service programs has given her skills well beyond the classroom. She has been able to apply her curriculum to a real life setting benefiting herself as well as her community.

### **SCOTT SMITH**

*Eastern Connecticut State University*

All through Scott Smith's college experience, he has looked for a way to become more involved in the Windham Community. He has always enjoyed working with children, and in 1992 he initiated a Drug Awareness/Literacy Program for all area schools around Eastern Connecticut State University.

The program began with a "General Assembly" visit to each of the participating schools by Head Coach Bill Holowaty and the players on the ECSU baseball team. The players, Coach Holowaty and Mr. Smith talked to the students about important issues such as drugs, alcohol, staying in school, goal setting, participating in sports, and, the main focus of the program, literacy. During the Spring 1992 semester, various classrooms in Windham Center School (Windham), Horace Porter School (Columbia), Samuel Huntington School (Norwich), and Natchaug School (Willimantic) were visited by four or more Eastern Connecticut baseball players for a period of reading, questions and answers, and special topics planned for the session.

Each session was arranged by Mr. Smith and a written plan was given to the teachers and student athletes involved. The program culminated with a clinic at local schools and a special "Night" at Alumni Field at ECSU.

Mr. Smith is happy to say that the program gained national recognition in newspapers across the country and that the program continues this year with the addition of a sponsor (Connecticut National Guard), and the addition of the ECSU softball team as partners with the baseball team. In the coming years, all ECSU teams will be involved in this program.

### **SUZANNE STIRBIS**

*Housatonic Community-Technical College*

In September of 1991, Suzanne Stirbis began volunteering with the South End Community Center's Positive Youth Development Program. This is an afterschool program with the objective of helping inner city youth grow with positive outlooks for the future.

At the Community Center Ms. Stirbis is involved with each of the youth groups, helping with homework, participating in play time, and listening to the children. She is now employed by the Community Center as the Assistant Youth Coordinator, and she continues to be involved with volunteering.

Ms. Stirbis has had a major role in initiating a program for teenagers in which she volunteers her services. In this program, Teen Scene, the teens receive help with school-

work, and they discuss the problems of drugs, sex, gangs, violence and pressures. Ms. Stirbis works to enhance self-esteem so the young people will be able to have the futures they deserve. She is extremely proud of these teens, and they do their best to show they appreciate her efforts.

Ms. Stirbis has also become involved with volunteering for the Bridgeport Originals Little League. In the 1992 season, she was the coach of a Tee-Ball team. In the 1993 season, she was elected Secretary of the Executive Board and will be an assistant coach. Ms. Stirbis' role as a coach is to teach children the basics of baseball and good sportsmanship. Even though her Tee-Ball team was not number one last season, they were polite, courteous, and always happy. She helps these children go from individuals who can't hold a bat properly to team members who cheer their teammates regardless of the outcome of the game. Coaching can be strenuous and tedious, but it is always worthwhile to Ms. Stirbis.

The link between both of Ms. Stirbis's roles in community services is her desire to help these children grow into people with purpose and self-esteem. Although she probably will never see the finished products of her efforts, she is confident each of these children will go on to be someone wonderful.

#### **VINCENT DELANEY**

*Northwestern Connecticut Community-Technical College*

For the past two years, Vincent Delaney has attended Northwestern Connecticut Community-Technical College because of a job injury and his need to retrain for the future. During this time he has become an active member of the Knights of Columbus and has assisted in many fund raising endeavors to assist those in need in the greater New Milford area.

One of his proudest accomplishments during the last two holiday seasons has been to initiate a project called "Holiday Turkey Drive." This project raised money by placing canisters in local businesses for donations to supply turkey dinners for those in need. Through the success of this project, over 30 needy families in the area were supplied with turkeys for holiday meals. The project was continued this past year by the Knights of Columbus and maintained the same level of success.

Mr. Delaney comments that in this economic time it brings a great feeling of satisfaction when one can say he has done something to help. Through his work with the Knights, Mr. Delaney has had many opportunities to enjoy this feeling of satisfaction.

#### **LORI USLE**

*Northwestern Connecticut Community-Technical College*

Lori Usle has volunteered her time as an active member of the Signs Of Our Times Club (SOOT-C) since her first semester at Northwestern Connecticut Community-Technical College. SOOT-C is a club of hearing and hearing impaired students with the mission to promote deaf awareness and to provide a social avenue between hearing and hearing impaired students. Ms. Usle has served on nearly every committee and has

chaired several. Most recently, Ms. Usle has been the 1992-1993 president of SOOT-C. She has led the club through one of its most active years and its most productive period of fundraising. The money will be donated to a local charity.

Her spirit of giving goes beyond NCCTC. Ms. Usle has given a significant amount of time to the Northwestern Connecticut AIDS Project in Torrington and to support hearing impaired people with the AIDS virus. Her current off campus charity is the Red Cross. "Helping Hands" is a Red Cross program which provides CPR Training to deaf people and provides accessibility for blood donation. She is a quiet worker, often behind the scenes, but the clerical and set-up work is the root of a successful program.

Ms. Usle is a second year student attending NCCTC through the Career Education for the Deaf Program.

### **VIRGINIA M. CHASE**

*Quinebaug Valley Community-Technical College*

Virginia Chase is a 47 year old student with multiple disabilities who recently graduated from QVCTC. She is continuing her educational endeavors. Due to the fact that she has multi-disabilities, she recognizes the numerous needs of persons with disabilities that are not being addressed in the community. Federal legislation known as the American Disability Act provides federal mandates, but the problem within communities is how to implement and access the laws.

Ms. Chase has completed a resource guide for students with disabilities, concerned faculty, staff and community agencies within the thirteen-town area of northern Connecticut. The guide lists concise information (including telephone numbers) with a complete cross reference of individualized topics such as advocacy programs, community action agencies, emergency shelters, rehabilitation services, transportation, etc. This data will be continually updated. The manual allows an individual to self advocate and permits a person to move from the role of dependence to independence, thus allowing him or her to be a contributing member of society. Ms. Chase secured funding for printing, and copies of this book are available upon request.

The following information list will describe some of her community involvement. Ms. Chase is on the Board of Directors of the Quinebaug Valley Youth and Family Services, Inc. She is a board member of the Northeast Transit District Advisory Board and the Disabilities Network of Connecticut. At QVCTC, she is involved with the following groups and activities: Campus Wide Committee for Strategic Plan for Students with Disabilities, Project U.P.L.I.F.T., Peer Advocate and Peer Mentor for disabled students, Special Needs Tutor, Community Transportation Advocacy Committee and the A.D.A. Task Force. Ms. Chase is also a member of the Putnam Multiple Sclerosis Support Group. In the above organizations, Ms. Chase recognizes herself a catalyst--she is the connection to the community.

### **MICHELLE COUTU**

*Quinebaug Valley Community-Technical College*

In spite of having physical limitations requiring her to use a wheelchair, Michelle Coutu is an active community service worker. At Quinebaug Valley Community-

Technical College, she has assisted in the development of a Computerized Disabilities Resource File for use by students with disabilities and residents of the community. The Resource File serves as an informational tool for people who live and work with individuals with disabilities. It lists and updates contacts for services within the State and promotes better access to the available services.

In addition to doing over 600 hours of community service and volunteer work at a local hospital, Ms. Coutu is also a member of the "Into the Streets" Coalition through the Student Government Association. "Into the Streets" is a national organization devoted to community service on college campuses across the country. As a member, Ms. Coutu participated in a sing-along to elderly residents in the community.

Ms. Coutu believes that community service gives strength to society and its members and makes the world a better place.

### **BETTY WEBSTER**

*Quinebaug Valley Community-Technical College*

Betty Webster is a survivor of childhood sexual abuse. Her sister died because she attempted to use drugs and alcohol to deal with the pain, anger, hurt and betrayal she felt from childhood sexual abuse.

Ms. Webster has been involved in two major community-oriented activities. She is the founder of an organization called W.A.L.L.S. (War Against Limiting Laws and Sex-crimes), the purpose of which is to make changes in the law concerning the statute of limitations for criminal sexual assault of a minor. In addition, W.A.L.L.S. attempts to identify and help institute meaningful and enforceable legislation as it pertains to childhood sexual abuse, to ensure that legislation is enforced to the maximum extent of its purpose, to educate the public on the laws and the procedures and enforcement thereof, and to increase public awareness on the magnitude of childhood sexual abuse. Proposed Bill No. 6073, An Act Lengthening the Statute of Limitations for Criminal Sexual Assault of a Minor, is before the Select Committee on Children. It was proposed on her behalf by Representative Jefferson Davis D-50th District, with whom she has worked for six months concerning this bill. She and other members of WALLS have given testimony at the Legislative Office Building and at various Public Hearings sites within Connecticut.

Ms. Webster has spoken to groups of students at Windham High School on the topic of childhood sexual abuse and her own experience as a victim. She stressed the importance of individuals disclosing abuse to someone they trust and continuing to tell about it until someone believes them. She reassured them that abuse is not their fault, and provided a list of resources available to them. She also told them about WALLS. These students took it upon themselves to circulate a petition to gain support for Bill #6073. Parents of these students have thanked her for bringing awareness to their children. She also has received letters from these students for going to their school and speaking with them about this issue. Her presentations have prompted a few students to disclose sexual abuse.

Her work has motivated her to start two support groups. HEAL is for adults recovering from any form of childhood abuse. The other group is for women who were

sexually abused as children. Both of these groups include college students and are open to the general public.

Ms. Webster's other community service has been with the Windham Area Community Action Head Start Program. WACAP Head Start is a comprehensive child development program aimed at providing pre-school children of low-income families with a program to meet their emotional, social, health, nutritional and psychological needs. From 1989 to 1990 she served as Head Start's Policy Council Vice-Chairperson. The Policy Council is the governing board for Head Start and provides parents with a means of participation in the decision-making process. From 1991 to 1992 she served as Vice-Chairperson for the Head Start Health Services Advisory Board and she is representing Head Start on the WACAP Board of Directors. In 1991, she enlisted the support of Representative Kevin Johnston in securing the Parent/Child Center (PCC) Grant for Head Start to expand its comprehensive services to pregnant women, infants and toddlers.

Ms. Webster is honored to have been nominated for this award, but she is not involved in these activities for personal recognition. She does it to help children, adult survivors and the community. She wants to prevent further childhood sexual abuse.

### **SCOTT GENERAZO** *Quinnipiac College*

Many of the community service projects that Scott Generazo has been involved with in the past have been related to his field of undergraduate study, which is Gerontology, the study of aging. It involves understanding not only the biological aspects of aging, but the sociological aspects as well. The Gerontology Program allows students to intern in a variety of different environments to gain knowledge and experience that cannot be obtained in the classroom.

As an intern, employee, and volunteer at Partnerships Center for Adult Day Care, Mr. Generazo was exposed to frail and impaired elderly who are often lonely, disillusioned, and confused. Although the Center's primary concern is for the welfare of its clients, it also is concerned with the financial crunch of the times and must find ways to raise money.

The first project that Mr. Generazo was involved with was the North Haven Fair this past October. As a Resident Assistant at Quinnipiac College, he was able to make the event into a community service project for students. He recruited dorm residents by advertising the event and transported workers to the fair ground to work at the Center's food tent. The turn out was better than expected and the weekend was a success. Mr. Generazo volunteered seven hours each day to help the Center achieve its goal. There was no gratuity received by the workers, but a sincere thank-you letter from the director was more than anyone could want.

The second community service project Mr. Generazo did for the Center was painting a ramp that allows the clients to get into the building. It often became slippery and hazardous to the clients in rain and snow. He recruited volunteers and spent a November weekend painting the ramp so that it would be safe in all weather.

Another fundraiser for the Center was a giant tag sale. Mr. Generazo transported items for sale to the Senior Center and worked the sale day selling items.

Mr. Generazo has become involved in community service projects because he likes to think he can make a difference, and the personal satisfaction of doing it outweighs the costs of doing it.

#### **DONNA MARIE DIFORMATO**

*Three Rivers Community-Technical College*

Donna Marie DiFormato has recovered from mental illness, and through her own experiences with manic-depression, she has been inspired to help others with psychiatric disabilities.

Ms. DiFormato's community service activities include her volunteer work at Reliance House, a community mental health program. Her title was "peer advocate" or peer case manager. Her work consisted of providing counseling and support to members of Reliance House, monitoring their success, and writing progress notes every two weeks. As an advocate, she linked members with community providers such as city welfare, social security and food assistance.

Ms. DiFormato has taken training in psychosocial rehabilitation at Reliance House. Two of these trainings were "Overall Rehabilitation Goals," in which she assisted members in planning to improve their working, learning, living and social environments, and "Functional Assessment," which involves a process of assessing and increasing awareness of necessary skills. She has attended various workshops throughout Connecticut and has learned techniques of crisis intervention and coping skills to help individuals with mental illness.

At the present time, Ms. DiFormato has a public service license and can drive a van to transport members. She is facilitating a new self-help group called "Coping with Mental Illness through Peer Support." She also speaks publicly to help reduce the stigma of mental illness and to educate others.

#### **CATHERINE E. LEWIS**

*Three Rivers Community-Technical College*

Catherine Lewis has been a very active volunteer in her community for many years. This spirit of volunteerism continued and expanded when she became a college student. At this time Ms. Lewis is a volunteer with the North Stonington Volunteer Fire Company Auxiliary, working on the emergency committee which serves food and drink to the firemen during emergencies. The largest task she helped coordinate was preparing and serving over 1,100 meals to emergency workers, firemen and families without power and water during Hurricane Bob. Ms. Lewis serves as Chairperson of the Home Arts and Crafts Exhibit for the North Stonington Agricultural Fair Association. The funds that are raised from the Fair help support the North Stonington Fire Co.

The Whalers Service Unit of Girl Scouts is another activity receiving assistance from Ms. Lewis. She coordinates the QSP magazine sale for the 20 troops in the Service Unit. The funds raised are used for programs and activities for the girls.

Ms. Lewis is the President of the Three Rivers Community-Technical College Accounting Society. She coordinates the service projects of the organization. The main project of the Accounting Society is preparing Christmas stockings and Easter baskets for the children at the Kirk-Bride Lang Shelter for homeless families. As a Student Senator at the college, she works on the Social Action Committee. Some of the projects they have successfully completed include food collection and distribution of food baskets to needy families. In addition, the Mitten Tree was created to provide free mittens for needy students. Ms. Lewis is also a Peer Tutor at the college.

**MARK ZAFRA**  
*Trinity College*

Mr. Zafra has been a four year contributor to Trinity College's Community Outreach Program and the Hartford community. He has served both as a volunteer and a project leader.

Mr. Zafra with the assistance of another Trinity student reorganized the defunct Hartford Camp Fire Boys & Girls program. The new program is titled "Trinity's Camp for Kids" and provides inner city boys and girls with afternoons of self development through recreational activities. These activities seek to combat the social concerns of inner-city youth by building self-esteem. Camp for Kids is presently operating with Betances and McDonough Elementary Schools.

As cofounder and project leader of this program, Mr. Zafra worked with a number of child psychologists to develop an agenda of developmental activities beneficial to inner-city youth. He has taken the initiative to recruit volunteers and make contacts with various school officials to ensure the program's success. Through high profile fundraisers, issues are discussed campus-wide. In its third year in operation, Camp for Kids provides much enjoyment for Hartford youth.

Mr. Zafra's dedication and concern did not cease with Trinity Camp for Kids. He expanded his involvement with Hartford youth through the development of a new program titled "Camp of Scholars." This academic-recreational program, an off-shoot of Camp for Kids, targets fifth and sixth grade boys. Boys are selected who would benefit most from exposure to college men. The group goal is to impress upon participating youth the need for academic preparation.

In his junior year, Mr. Zafra was instrumental in founding the Center for Community Action at Trinity College. Called Praxis, the program is Trinity's residential community service dorm. Mr. Zafra brought the project to fruition by implementing a proposal and securing support for it. He also helped organize a 1993 Alternative Spring Break for Trinity students to rebuild houses in Florida for victims of Hurricane Andrew.

**\*KIRSTY WALL**

*United States Coast Guard Academy*

During the past four years at the United States Coast Guard Academy, Kirsty Wall has actively participated in community service. Her main activities include working at the Salvation Army Soup Kitchen, being a Big Sister, helping with the annual Haunted House project, being a Garde Arts Center Performance Volunteer, acting as the liaison to R.A.D., working with Special Olympics Volleyball Tournament and teaching Moral Instruction at Mount Saint John's School for Boys. This year, which is Ms. Wall's senior year, she has assumed the leadership of many of these programs.

This year, in addition to her personal community service involvement, Ms. Wall coordinated the community service efforts of all the cadets through her assignment as the Corps' Community Service Officer. Her success is two dimensional. First, she expanded the number of community service opportunities for cadets; she has initiated more than eight new programs through which cadets can serve the community. These include: the 'Going for the Goal' program, a volunteer program at Lawrence and Memorial Hospital, tutoring at the Charles B. Jennings School in New London, an additional program at Mount Saint John's School and work with the D.A.R.E. program among others.

Another dimension of her success is increasing the number of cadets who participate in community service. She addressed both the freshman and sophomore classes about community service opportunities and rewards. Ms. Wall started a community service bulletin board that has the latest information about available activities. The board includes sign-up lists to request more information. Between the bulletin board and the lectures, she directly contacted over 60 percent of the cadets.

The Corps of Cadets' heightened interest led directly to more involvement. For example, inquiries to Big Brothers/Big Sisters rose from an average of 2-3 inquiries a month to over a dozen each month. More than 50 percent of these inquiries resulted in an application to become a Big. The number of volunteers at the Garde Arts Center went from two to twenty and is still growing. Another measure of her success has been the leap in the number of community service hours tallied by the Corps from 600 to 1200 (monthly).

This semester, Ms. Wall shared her enthusiasm with others on a large scale. This resulted in new projects and new volunteers. Even more so, it resulted in the Coast Guard Academy acquiring a more significant role in community service in Southeastern Connecticut.

**ADAMIL RIVERA**

*University of Connecticut*

Graduating from a high school where Hispanics were small in number, Adamil Rivera missed out on many opportunities for scholarships, financial aid, and guidance. When she came to UConn she wanted to go into the community and speak to minority students about the benefits and opportunities of entering a university, but she knew she could not do this alone.

A group of women with common unfavorable experiences came together to prevent unfavorable experiences from happening to other minority students, and Lambda Theta Alpha was founded. Lambda Theta Alpha's main goals as an academic sorority are to achieve scholarly excellence, to support and maintain minority unity and to promote cultural awareness of both the Latino and other minority cultures.

The group worked with the Husky Ambassadors and visited high schools where the majority of students were African Americans and Hispanics. They talked to the students about the importance of higher education, but this did not seem to be enough. The social problems went beyond the high schools. The group knew that if they wanted to make a difference, they needed to work with the minority women on a one-to-one basis.

They began working with Windham High School in Willimantic where Ms. Rivera, along with the Admissions Office, wanted to formulate a Big Sister program. This program is designed to give students in danger of not going to college because of socio-economic stratifications a new perspective of what the future can hold for them through education and higher self-esteem. The program will change the perspective of these young women and also will intervene with many of the immediate problems such as drugs and teenage pregnancy that these women may encounter in their environment.

The group intend to be role models for the young women by allowing them to see that living in a low income neighborhood does not restrict a person from becoming successful. Teaching them to believe in themselves and to have pride in their unique culture and language will lead to the eventual success. Coordinating this program has been difficult but it has allowed Ms. Rivera to see how fortunate she has been to go to school and improve herself. As a perspective juvenile delinquent counselor, this program will give her the insight to understand where these children come from and how she can be of assistance to them. Through these preventive measures she is trying to break society's stereotypes so our children can be our future leaders.

#### **ENID MERCEDES REY**

*University of Connecticut, School of Law*

As a bilingual, bicultural Puerto Rican woman who was raised in Hartford, Enid Mercedes Rey has always been intensely committed to the empowerment of her community. Last summer as a Public Interest Law Grant recipient, she was able to work in the area of Family Law and witness first hand the difficulties encountered by indigent women and especially women affected by HIV, when dealing with the legal system. In September of 1992, Ms. Rey enrolled in a class entitled Legal Responses to AIDS. As a result, she began project *Mujer and Mujer/Woman to Woman* as a project for that class but more importantly as a response to some of the issues faced by women whose lives have been affected by the HIV virus.

The purpose of the project is to provide a safe women-only space where women who have been affected by HIV unite, gaining support and strength from one another through education, information, friendship and planned activities. The group is a support where women can feel safe, have fun and talk about the issues most important to them. Ms. Rey is strongly committed to providing a woman-focused environment as well as presenting information to the group in the most appropriate and diverse way possible--by providing materials translated to Spanish, by using bilingual speakers, by providing movies, and by providing child care and transportation.

Many of the women have not thought about the legal issues affecting them. They often feel intimidated by the legal system, and some are not ready to accept that they have to deal with legal matters before they die. Their concerns range from housing issues and how to collect certain benefits, to wills and child custody issues. Ms. Rey routinely reviews the information booklets published by the various Legal Service agencies with the group, and when a specific issue arises, she invites an attorney to give them information. Frequently, when someone is ready to see an attorney about settling legal matters, she accompanies that person for support as well as to serve as a translator. Because of their open and informed discussions on legal issues affecting people with the HIV virus, some of the members of the group have become mentors to other people in similar situations. Some of the women now know the services provided by the Legal Services agencies and will accompany others to appointments.

The project targets mostly Spanish speaking women who are HIV positive themselves, those who are caretakers of a person who is HIV positive, or those who are partners of an infected individual. Currently there are eight active members. Six are HIV positive themselves and two are partners of HIV positive males. There are also 19 children who belong to the women in the group, five of which are HIV positive. There are several support groups in the city that address some of the issues that affect this target group. However, this project is the only one that is conducted in Spanish and is for women only. It also is the only project where women can obtain detailed legal information in their own language and begin to discuss their legal concerns in a safe and supportive environment.

From the beginning Ms. Rey strongly encouraged ownership of the group among the members. It is her hope that the group will survive and that the members will continue to give each other support.

#### **KATHY NUGENT**

*University of Connecticut, School of Medicine*

Students at the University of Connecticut Medical School have participated in a variety of community service activities since the school first enrolled students in 1968. The development of the Community-Based Education Program in the early 1980's facilitated student involvement with community organizations and supported work with underserved populations. The student-run South Park Inn Homeless Shelter Primary Care Clinic evolved at this time.

Ms. Kathy Nugent is the University of Connecticut School of Medicine's individual nominee for outstanding community service. Ms. Nugent has spent many hours at the South Park Inn Homeless Shelter Medical Clinic and has been an active member of the board of directors. During her first year of medical school, a community service requirement for all students was established. Ms. Nugent has been an active participant on the UConn School of Medicine Community Service Committee to establish guidelines for community service projects. She also served as liaison to other medical school classes for community service activities.

In addition to assuming a leadership position with the medical clinic at South Park Inn, and on the Community Service Committee, Ms. Nugent developed a new community service project. This project seeks to provide nutrition education to pregnant

women at local community health centers. This nutrition education project was based on work she did between her 1st and 2nd year of medical school on an American Medical Student Association (AMSA) Health Promotion/Disease Prevention project.

Ms. Nugent consistently demonstrates a humanistic approach and concern for others along with a high level of initiative and responsibility.

**MICHELLE CUCCIA**

*University of Connecticut, Stamford*

Michelle Cuccia presently is very involved as a Foreign Language Coach/Coordinator in the Campus Community Service Committee's inner city program for Hispanophone and Francophone children. She is a key person in the Committee's public service effort, performing far beyond the duties of her technical title in the supporting grant for the program.

In the winter recess and at the end of the fall semester, Ms. Cuccia doubled in other coordinating roles under the grant when sudden and unavoidable student vacancies occurred. During this time she organized a small but committed corps of campus volunteers and assisted the Campus Committee to maintain a steady course toward grant objectives.

Ms. Cuccia is a life-long volunteer with major community service involvement in her high school in Colombia. She quickly became a regular volunteer at Stamford Hospital when she came to Stamford and works with cancer and AIDS patients. She also is working with the Norwalk Human Rights and Relations Commission to translate into Spanish important brochures, instructions and forms related to Fair Rent/Fair Housing, Equal Employment Opportunity, and other legal documents.

Ms. Cuccia accomplishes all these activities while holding a full-time campus job in the Registrar's Office and maintaining high grades with a full load of difficult courses. Ms. Cuccia is a pre-Med Biology Major.

**ROBERTA D. BRITTON**

*University of Connecticut, Torrington*

Roberta Britton is a car accident survivor (4/88) with traumatic brain injury and cervical damage/chronic pain. She is a divorced mother of four children, working full time and taking nine credits per semester at UConn.

In June 1992, Ms. Britton founded and currently facilitates a support group for persons with traumatic brain injury. The group serves the northwestern corner of Connecticut and provides a resource of information, a source of support for members and referral to services for those with TBI and their families. The support group is a satellite group of the CT Traumatic Brain Injury Association. Ms. Britton is a member of their Board of Directors which advocates for persons with TBI and for prevention of head injury.

She has worked with the newspapers and WSNG's Talk Show, speaking out to help educate the public on traumatic brain injury. Ms. Britton worked on the planning

committee and co-chaired an empowerment conference for persons with TBI where they formed a survivors council for the purpose of self-advocacy, now known as the Connecticut Traumatic Brain Injury Citizens Council (CT TBIA). She has been nominated as the next president. The next empowerment conference planned by the Council is to assist persons with any disability in accessing services with the Bureau of Rehabilitation Services.

Ms. Britton is the coordinator for Bike-a-Thon in Winsted for the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital for the past two years and this coming year.

In 1979-80, she met with Governor Ella Grasso and presented her with a program to allow women on welfare to attend 2 year college programs. Her program was later sent by Connecticut delegate to President Jimmy Carter's White House Conference on Families. In 1979-80 she spoke with and sent a detailed report to Congressman Toby Moffett suggesting a fuel subsidy program so families could keep their dignity and contribute, to their heating needs. The program would reduce the total dollars spent by the State.

### **RUSSELL BLATT**

*University of Hartford*

In Russell Blatt's undergraduate years at the University of Hartford, he has planned, developed and coordinated four major programs to help the community-at-large. Every semester for the past two years, he has arranged campus wide food drives. He organized his fraternity brothers to go to different residential areas and collect non-perishable items for FOODSHARE. In the past semester, they collected over 1200 pounds of food; and this semester the goal is another 500 pounds. As the organizer, Mr. Blatt was responsible for collection, sorting and delivery of the food to FOODSHARE.

For the past two years, Mr. Blatt organized programs for University students called "Consequences of Drinking and Driving." Last year's program featured a speaker who had been incarcerated for a DWI accident. This was a well received program and was awarded "Housing Services Program of the Year." This year's program focused on the victims of the DWI accidents. People who have relatives killed in DWI accidents speak at the university in the hope of stopping drinking and driving.

The third program Mr. Blatt coordinated was "Miles of Pennies," a fund-raiser for the American Red Cross. The object of the program was to collect pennies from the residential buildings. The final day, Mr. Blatt arranged to have a voluntary tollbooth at the entrance to the campus. The idea worked and over \$300 was collected from the tollbooths. Over \$500 total was raised to help those affected by hurricanes and to give individuals in the north a sense that they were helping.

Mr. Blatt's fourth and largest program was the American Cancer Society's "Jail and Bail." This was a two-day event that included the "arrests" of over 100 people to raise money for ACS. Those arrested included the President, the Dean, other administrators, staff, faculty, and students. In arranging for this program time, space, phone lines, arrests, workers, a jail, and hundreds of other things had to be arranged. This event raised \$8500 for ACS.

Mr. Blatt is very proud to have been a part of each of these projects.

**DEIRDRA E. BONAFEDE**  
*Western Connecticut State University*

The enrichment of this society through means such as volunteering is very important to Deirdra Bonafede. She believes in idealism. And she believes idealism can be the same as realism.

Ms. Bonafede has been active in various volunteer projects. Last summer she spent Monday through Friday at the BP Learned Mission. This is a center for children, ages 4 to 15, who are considered "at risk." The center provides the children with a chance to succeed in this world. The volunteer group fed the children, tutored, counseled, and played with them. Ms. Bonafede's enthusiasm for the mission is impressive.

She also volunteers her time with the Ronald McDonald House in New Haven. She became associated with this group through her sorority (Alpha Delta Pi), for which she was the service chairperson. She personally ran the annual fashion show with all proceeds donated to the House. Ms. Bonafede also organized trips to the Ronald McDonald House to cook dinner and generally provide assistance for the families staying there.

Through Alpha Delta Pi, she is becoming involved in "adopt a street," and she is currently volunteering through a full-time internship in the juvenile court system. She works with the State's Advocate.

**PATRICIA BRAGDON**  
*Western Connecticut State University*

Realizing the lack of supportive services in the Danbury area for cancer patients, Patricia Bragdon co-founded an agency, I CAN, that offers support services to cancer patients, their families, and friends. I CAN was formed in February 1991 and is a non-profit, incorporated agency with an active Board of Directors composed of a range of professionals from the Danbury area. Ms. Bragdon is currently Director and President of the Board.

I CAN is an organization whose administration and direct client services are staffed solely by volunteers. The services of I CAN include the following: support groups, individual counseling; a childrens' group; hospital equipment loan closet; visual and audio library as well as reading material; financial assistance; visitation in the home and hospital; transportation to and from treatment; prescription assistance plan offering medication at a reduced rate; help with entitlement and insurance forms, and a 24 hour immediate response phone service "Care-Line." In 1992 I CAN reached out to over 225 cancer patients. All services of I CAN are free of charge.

In addition to her involvement with I CAN, she is an active participant of the "Mid-Night Run." Activities include organizing and coordinating community elementary school students who prepare lunches to feed homeless people in New York City. Ms. Bragdon leaves her home on the first Friday of the month at 9:00 p.m., feeding homeless individuals on the streets and in the parks and returning to her home around 4:00 a.m.. She collects clothes and blankets during each month to distribute on the "Run."

Through her efforts of collecting redeemable cans, on campus and in the community, she has been able to contribute well over \$150.00 to the memorial Scott Andrews Scholarship Fund which will provide a small stipend to a Social Work Program student.

**\*MATTHEW T.A. NASH**  
*Yale University*

Matthew Nash's activities at Yale have brought him in constant contact with the New Haven community. In addition to being a very active member of the Student Cabinet of Dwight Hall (Yale's community service liaison organization), he also coordinates several undergraduate service groups. In 1991, Mr. Nash undertook the task of reviving the service fraternity, Alpha Phi Omega, which had ceased to exist on the Yale campus during the 1970s. A corps group of ten students were recruited by Mr. Nash last year, and this year 17 new students pledged. APO alumni who are graduate students also have joined. The group should obtain Chapter status this year based on their accomplishments. They have provided over 850 hours of service to the community.

Booksgiving is another group Mr. Nash coordinates. The students collect new and used children's books and distribute them to needy New Haven youngsters. He also has assumed leadership of the Yale Charities Drive which raises and distributes almost \$10,000 annually to student-run community service programs. This year he also re-founded and coordinated the Interfraternity Council for Community Service (IFC) which serves as a forum in which fraternities and sororities can share their current social service work and plan for joint service opportunities. Still another group he coordinates is the planning committee for Communiversiety Day 1993, a day-long celebration of the Yale/New Haven partnership.

Mr. Nash feels that his most important community service endeavor at Yale has been with the Boy Scouts. An Eagle Scout, he decided to continue his scouting work in New Haven. He is presently the Scoutmaster of inner-city Troop 111. As troop leader, he plans and organizes activities weekly, finds necessary resources and participates fully with the young boys, inspiring them to strive to build their confidence, character and self-esteem. This summer, four of the troop Scouts will be going to the national Scout jamboree in Virginia.

Mr. Nash feels that through all of these service activities, he is learning compassion. He has grown to appreciate more fully the hardships of those less fortunate than he. He hopes during his last year at Yale, he can give back as much to the community as it has given to him.

## SPECIAL AWARD NOMINEES

The Special Award category honors faculty, college/university staff, non-profit agency staff and others who are considered leaders in community service by their personal contributions and institutional commitment.

\*Special Award winners are identified with an asterisk.

### **WALTER AND CAROL DABKOWSKI** *Asnuntuck Community-Technical College*

Walter and Carol Dabkowski are members of the volunteer board of the University of the Third Age (U.T.A.) Chapter at Asnuntuck Community-Technical College. The U.T.A. Chapter is dedicated to enhancing the lives of the senior population of the College service area. This involvement occurs through activities including lecture series and course work.

Walter and Carol Dabkowski were instrumental in starting and completing a fundraiser to purchase new chairs for the college auditorium. Through their efforts, the U.T.A. Chapter and the Alumni Association raised approximately \$27,000 for the purchase of chairs and renovations to the auditorium.

Also through their efforts, the Copernicus Book Collection in the Learning Resource Center of Asnuntuck Community-Technical College was established. They originated the idea and designed the gift plate placed inside each donated and/or purchased book. Through their continued efforts in the first year, the college has exceeded its goal of 500 books. The goal is to build a representative collection of books and other materials on Polish history and culture for use by the Asnuntuck Community-Technical College and the community at large. The Copernicus Collection is a cultural link to the community.

### **\*SANDY GABBERT, INEZ REYNOLDS, & PATTI TOUGH** *Asnuntuck Community-Technical College*

Patti Tough, Sandy Gabbert and Inez Reynolds are three persons with disabilities who have created a program entitled REACH, which provides Resource, Education, Advocacy, Counseling and Help for persons with and without disabilities. Recognizing a need for resource information to aid individuals with disabilities and their families, the group researched and published a book which will help both individuals with disabilities and agencies who work with them.

This group observed that senior citizens on fixed incomes are given discounts by many establishments. Since persons with disabilities are often on fixed incomes as well, the group personally contacted and obtained cooperation from business establishments to offer discounts to persons with disabilities. They then printed a directory of **Discounts for Consumers with Disabilities**.

With the help of the Enfield Senior Center, the group has provided a method for persons with disabilities to obtain photo ID cards. This service was not readily available to this group previously, and persons with disabilities found it difficult to cash checks or carry out transactions requiring photo ID cards. The ID cards also carry medical infor-

mation about the individuals. The service is now available once a month at the Senior Citizen Center.

Historically, the REACH Program has worked closely with the Town of Enfield to improve access and mobility for persons with disabilities. For example, ramps have been provided for polling places to provide equal access for elections.

**ANTHONY KARDULAS**

*Capital Community-Technical College*

Anthony Kardulas is a chef and owner of a sound production company. He has on numerous occasions donated his time, talents and equipment to promote and add essential services to many college and community programs. An example of his contributions include a series of AIDS Awareness rallies, organized and administered by CCTC students at the State Capitol. On each occasion, Mr. Kardulas provided the sound equipment and publicity free of charge.

Mr. Kardulas was the victim of a mistaken identity shooting, and his nephew, a promising artist, was murdered. Mr. Kardulas's contribution to the memory of his nephew and to youth in general is an institute dedicated to promoting non-violence in youth. He has published brochures in English and Spanish, and they have been made available throughout Hartford and Springfield. He and his colleagues are beginning to change youth attitudes and behaviors through a variety of programs.

**WILLIAM G. BUMPUS**

*Central Connecticut State University*

William G. Bumpus is founder of the CCSU Minority Business Student Association. He is also founder and sponsor of the William G. Bumpus Award for Academic Excellence which awards \$1,000 annually to the top minority student in the School of Business at CCSU. Mr. Bumpus was the recipient of the School of Business Distinguished Alumni Award, and he is an annual participant and speaker at the Minority Youth Business Conference.

He is a contributor and committee member of the E.O.P. 25th Anniversary Scholarship Program Committee, and a member of the Board of Directors for "A Better Chance of Glastonbury Planning" and a committee member for the Hartford Hoop-It-Up 3 on 3 Charity Basketball Tournament.

**\*SISTER M. PETER**

*Eastern Connecticut State University*

Sister M. Peter runs a homeless shelter in Willimantic which houses and supports many individuals and families. However, the main reason for this nomination is her dedication to working with Eastern Connecticut State University's Community Outreach Office. Sister Peter has participated willingly in ECSU's community service programs since their inception. Throughout the history of the programs, she has provided ECSU

with a variety of volunteer jobs, both long and short term. She is always amenable to assisting students with Community Service placements when mandatory deadlines are imminent. She has also worked collaboratively with faculty for internships and practica.

She has attended all of ECSU's agency workshops and focus groups, and has offered constructive feedback at all sessions. Additionally, she has served as a speaker at "Into the Streets" events and residence hall programs.

No college community service program can be run effectively without the support of the non-profit agencies who work with the students. Sister Peter and her agency are the models on which agency-university community service collaborations should be based.

### **JAMES D. FITZPATRICK**

*Fairfield University*

As part of Fairfield's 50th Anniversary, Jim Fitzpatrick was instrumental in organizing a project whereby administrators and faculty assist in the preparation and serving of food at Prospect House, a shelter for the homeless. For the past year and a half, he has organized the volunteers on a weekly basis. His efforts are the backbone of many Fairfield University Outreach Programs involving administrators and faculty.

### **SISTER ANN MOLES**

*Fairfield University*

For the past three years, Sister Ann Moles has designed and directed a week long "urban immersion" experience for 14-18 students during Christmas or Spring break. In the "urban plunge," students meet gang members and recovering addicts, homeless people and community activists, doctors and police officers, teachers and AIDS patients. The students serve in soup kitchens and shelters, tutor in schools, organize after-school programs, and work with children whose parents have AIDS and with unwed mothers. Each evening the students reflect on the day's experiences with local community members or faculty members in order to understand the social, economic, and political dimensions of the human problems they have witnessed. Sister Ann has been the creative source and driving force of the Plunge. She has wedded community service and intellectual inquiry in a unique program of service, reflection and structural analysis.

### **\*THOMAS GEORGE**

*Housatonic Community-Technical College*

Professor Thomas George is treasurer of the Fair Haven Soup Kitchen. He has been responsible for obtaining donations of equipment for the Soup Kitchen's operation, has helped plan fund raising events, has solicited cash contributions and has established a newsletter. In addition, he is a regular cook/server at the Soup Kitchen. At Housatonic Community-Technical College, he runs an annual food drive to provide free food baskets for needy Housatonic Community-Technical College students at Christmas.

**MORGAN J. CUMMINGS**  
*Mitchell College*

As the President's Fellow for DRUGS DON'T WORK, Morgan Cummings has been involved in Wellness Education. In addition to duties associated with the Fellowship, Mr. Cummings became involved with the "Going for the Goal" program at the local Harbor School. This project involved recruiting, selecting and training Mitchell students to work with elementary students. Mr. Cummings and the students he selected and trained are now involved in this program encouraging Harbor School elementary students to set goals and accept social responsibility.

✓ **EILEEN CHRISTINAT**  
*Northwestern Connecticut Community-Technical College*

A willing heart and a lovely disposition describe Eileen Christinat who has volunteered four to five hours weekly in the Northwestern Connecticut Community-Technical College Registrar's office since 1989. Recently, she took on another challenge—that of a literacy volunteer helping in the DSP Lab. In the community, she is a Eucharistic minister aiding the homebound in spiritual renewal.

You may also find Eileen visiting a nursing home, shopping for an elderly person, driving someone somewhere, or packing up a houseful of belongings for a friend. Eileen's accomplishments came later in life than for most people. Her youthful enthusiasm is the envy of those half her age. She is truly a College and community "treasure."

**J. MILBURN THOMPSON**  
*St. Joseph College*

Dr. J. Milburn Thompson has successfully integrated community service into the academic setting. Over the course of the past seven years, students enrolled in the course "Christianity and Social Justice" have been required to engage in service to the poor and reflect critically on that experience in the light of social, economic, and ethical theories which explore the roots of poverty. Students have worked in shelters, prisons, and homes for persons with AIDS, as well as soup kitchens and homes for battered women. This initial exposure often leads to a sustained commitment to service. It almost always transforms attitudes to the poor, as the students recognize the huge gulf they had assumed existed between themselves and their poor neighbors is an illusion. One student reported the jarring and transforming experience of being mistaken for a shelter resident. Over 300 St. Joseph College students have gained the practical experience of service through Dr. Thompson's course. It could serve as a model for others searching for methods of integrating service and study.

Dr. Thompson himself volunteers regularly at St. Elizabeth House. He has also volunteered at the Immaculate Conception shelter. He serves on the Board of St. Mary Home, and serves on the ethics committees of two local long-term care facilities.

**JAMES W. BARBER**

*Southern Connecticut State University*

James Barber is a member of the Yale-New Haven Hospital Children's Committee which is devoted to children's wellness. He is an active participant in the Neighborhood Youth Athletic Program which is a summer track and field program for children. Mr. Barber is on the Board of Directors of New Haven's Community Action Agency, an antipoverty organization. He also works with the SCSU Outreach Program in Developmental Track & Field, involving children and their families in wholesome, well-supervised activities. He is involved with the New Haven Scholarship Fund for students with financial need and commitment to higher education. He is also on the Board of Directors of Students United, a student study group concerned with accomplishments of early African civilization.

**TERESA CIARLEGLIO**

*Teikyo Post University*

Teresa Ciarleglio was Chairperson of a team of twenty-one volunteers who planned and arranged the Women in Business Conference held in Waterbury in September 1992. The volunteers, representing eighteen firms, devoted a great many hours over a ten-month period to making the conference a worthwhile event.

The conference featured eight workshops focusing on issues of interest to business and professional women. Other conference highlights included a keynote speaker and a luncheon speaker, both of whom enjoy a national reputation in their respective fields of endeavor.

Two hundred and fifty women attended the conference. The written evaluations prepared at the end of the day were highly laudatory and were further evidence that the interests and expectations of the participants had been well served. The proceeds of the conference provided \$3,000 of scholarship assistance for two high-potential undergraduates at Teikyo Post University.

The work of Ms. Ciarleglio is an outstanding example of merging the efforts of a great many people to the benefit of the community, area employers, conference participants, scholarship winners and Teikyo Post University.

**KIRK PETERS**

*Trinity College*

Dean Kirk Peters is a vocal Hunger and Homelessness awareness advocate. He organized educational activities during Trinity's Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week. During this designated week, he was responsible for coordinating a global dinner to call awareness to the world's food distribution. This event allowed students to experience what people from second and third world countries eat on a daily basis. Depending on the "world" they were assigned, some of the students ate rice only while others feasted on a four course meal. The dinner was followed with a discussion facilitated by Dean Peters on what role students can play in combating the hunger problem.

Dean Peters not only advocates awareness but takes an active role against hunger. As a regular volunteer at Immaculate Conception shelter, he often organizes volunteer efforts. His involvement with Immaculate Conception has spurred him to aggressively recruit students to volunteer their time. Over a recent school break, Dean Peters coordinated a volunteer night at the shelter to cover an emergency need for food and volunteers. This involved publicity, fund-raising, purchasing and preparing the food, transporting students and coordinating with the shelter so that it could accommodate student volunteers. This one time event was successful and the experience heightened many students' interest in hunger related issues.

**HYUNG C. CHUNG**  
*University of Bridgeport*

Dr. H.C. Chung, Professor of Economics and Chairman of the Economics Department at the University of Bridgeport, has dedicated 23 years of his professional services to various communities in Connecticut.

Dr. Chung founded the Urban Management Institute at the University of Bridgeport in 1970 with a Higher Education Act of 1965 community service grant provided by the Connecticut's Commission on Aid to Higher Education. The objective of the Urban Management Institute has been to offer community service opportunities to faculty members as well as to students, while at the same time providing much needed training, research, and volunteer services to Connecticut's communities.

Dr. Chung is especially well known for his services to the Hispanic communities in Connecticut. He has conducted needs assessment studies for the state's Hispanic population and assisted Hispanic agencies to implement many worthy programs including projects providing affordable housing.

Dr. Chung has diligently shared his talents to advance fortunes of the less fortunate in our society. All of these community services were rendered beyond the call of his regular duties at the University as a full-time faculty member and administrator. He is exemplary to all his fellow faculty members and students and is worthy of special recognition.

Dr. Chung also served as a member of the board of directors or as a consultant at many community service agencies such as the Greater Bridgeport Mental Health Council, the Greater Bridgeport Area Urban League, the East Rock Institute, the Bridgeport Economic Development Corporation, and for municipal governments.

**BRIAN BAKER**  
*University of Connecticut, School of Medicine*

Students at the University of Connecticut Medical School have participated in a variety of community service activities since the school first enrolled students in 1968. The development of the Community-Based Education Program in the early 1980's facilitated student involvement with community organizations and support-work with underserved populations. The student-run South Park Inn (Homeless Shelter) Medical Clinic evolved at this time.

Mr. Brian Baker, Service Coordinator at the South Park Inn, has spent many additional hours working with UConn medical students at the shelter. His support for medical students at South Park Inn has fostered the development of this community service project as well as the community service requirement for all students at the University of Connecticut School of Medicine. Student operation of this clinic identified the need for further institutional support for community service activities and was the impetus for creation of the community service requirement. Therefore, the Community Service Committee, University of Connecticut School of Medicine, nominates Mr. Brian Baker as an agency leader for the Connecticut Higher Education Community Service Award.

Students comment that Mr. Baker demonstrates his support in a variety of ways including: 1) he always attends South Park Medical Clinic Student Board meetings held once a month at the medical school - he never sends anyone in his place; 2) he is always willing to extend his time to assist students with the clinic operation and to help students understand issues relevant for people who are homeless; 3) he has found ways to repaint the clinic area and obtain needed equipment; 4) he maintains a positive environment by setting clear expectations for students and for shelter clients; 5) he provides informational seminars for students at the Health Center.

Brian Baker's efforts have nurtured the development of the medical clinic which presently involves over 150 medical students in all four years of training and 30 local physicians; this volunteer clinic staff care for approximately 1,000 shelter patients annually. The clinic is the only medical treatment for most of the shelter residents and thus serves a critical function for intervention, prevention and general health counseling. In addition, the clinic he has nurtured provided the impetus for the establishment of the medical school's community service requirement.

### **RUSTY HUNTER**

*University of Connecticut, Stamford*

Mrs. Rusty Hunter has been an enthusiastic and creative supporter of the campus community service initiative since its inception. Her superb organizational skills, detailed knowledge of the community, and experience as a teacher and counselor have consistently served the campus committee for community service and its student volunteers in an exemplary way. She has also attended campus events, provided enrichment materials, and given the campus committee many wise insights over the past three years. Her enthusiasm is contagious. Her flexibility and readiness with plans and alternatives have been invaluable to the committee.

### **KAREN BARKER-DUNCAN**

*University of Hartford  
Hartford College for Women*

Since Karen Barker-Duncan joined the Hartford College for Women campus, she has been a driving force behind volunteer activities. She has brought students together with the children and mothers from Family Life, a program based in Hartford serving a

group of teenage mothers who have decided to finish high school and continue their education. Karen's obvious selflessness has spread to the students and her constant concern for others has been a model for all at Hartford College.

**DONALD J. COHEN**  
*Yale University*

Donald J. Cohen convened and directs the Forum on Education and Society which focuses on the impact of urban violence on children in the inner city. The Forum was the base for initiating the Police Training Program, a collaboration between the Child Study Center at Yale and the New Haven Police which attempts to reduce the impact of violence on the lives of the children of New Haven. Through a Forum multidisciplinary committee, efforts also have been made to coordinate and optimize crisis intervention services within the schools in the New Haven area.

In addition, Dr. Cohen also serves as advisor to the Adolescent Substance Abuse Program /Coaching Adolescents toward Careers in Health Program (ASAP/CATCH). The ASAP program is a partnership between students at the Yale School of Medicine, the Roberto Clemente Middle School, and the Troup Magnet Academy of Science. Yale students teach middle school students to reach elementary school students with their own drug prevention messages. Through CATCH, medical and nursing students inform seventh-grade students in New Haven Public Schools about careers in health.

Dr. Cohen served on the National Commission on Children and currently serves as President of Yale Hillel.

## PRESIDENT'S YOUTH SERVICE AWARDS

The President's Youth Service Awards were created in October of 1992. The purpose of establishing the President's Youth Service Awards is to create a widespread, grassroots recognition system to encourage young Americans to participate in voluntary community service activities aimed at solving serious social problems. There are two levels of awards--the President's Award and the National Award. All members of the U.S. Congress will be notified of the President's Award and National Award winners in their districts and invited to hold local recognition ceremonies. Eligibility requirements are as follows:

- Awards are given for individual achievement. Individuals who perform community service as part of a group are eligible.
- The awards are designed to recognize voluntary, not paid, community service.
- Young people age 5 through 22 are eligible. (The Department of Higher Education has nominated students for the 18 through 22 age category).
- Each nominee may accept only one nomination per year.
- The awards are designed to recognize hands-on service. All fundraising activities are excluded from consideration. All lobbying efforts trying to change Federal, State or local laws are excluded.
- All residents in the United States and its territories are eligible. An individual does not need to be an American citizen.

The Connecticut Department of Higher Education has nominated ten students for the highest award given in this first year of national recognition. Nominees for the President's Award include the following:

Russell Blatt, University of Hartford  
Deirdra Bonafede, Western Connecticut State University  
Janet Cardona, Connecticut College  
Michelle Cuccia, University of Connecticut, Stamford  
Matthew T. A. Nash, Yale University  
Gina Pettinico, Central Connecticut State University  
Adamil Rivera, University of Connecticut  
Suzanne Stirbis, Housatonic Community-Technical College  
Kirsty Wall, U. S. Coast Guard Academy  
Mark W. Zafra, Trinity College



Lowell P. Weicker, Jr.  
Governor