

2011-12 ANNUAL REPORT



EASTERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY

A Liberal Education. Practically Applied.



President's Message

The past year at Eastern Connecticut State University has been highlighted by progress on a number of fronts. Faculty, staff and students have focused their time and energy on new intellectual pursuits, new innovative programs, and opportunities for engaging our alumni and communities throughout Connecticut and beyond. It has been a time of growth and a time to look to the future. Students, faculty and staff have worked together on and off campus to create a community built on knowledge, research and engagement in meeting the education needs of the 21st century. Intellectually challenged by a broad-based interdisciplinary liberal arts curriculum, students also found an increasing number of opportunities to apply their skills in practical settings.

Eastern students are gaining invaluable experience in internships, research projects and other practical applications of their liberal arts education. This combination of classroom and real-world experience resonates with parents and prospective students alike especially in today's economy, as shown in the dramatic increase in applications for the fall 2012 semester. Freshman applications for fall 2012 were up more than 40 percent over fall 2011 figures, while overall applications, including those from transfer students, were up 32 percent. Eastern's beautiful campus, attractive residence halls, small campus and liberal arts focus are all factors cited by students who are considering Eastern.

When I visit with parents, prospective students and other citizens across the state of Connecticut, I am pleased at how many know of someone attending Eastern and of the positive impressions they have of our University. Those expressions of personal interest, as well as the regional and national awards and recognitions the University continues to receive, are all signs that we are making strides in becoming a public liberal arts university of first choice.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Elsa M. Núñez'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'E' and 'M'.

Elsa M. Núñez
President

Eastern made great strides this past year as Connecticut's public liberal arts university. Students, faculty and staff worked together in on- and off-campus settings to elevate Eastern's status as a University of First Choice.



2011-12 University Recognitions



Eastern was one of only 110 schools in the country to be admitted to President Obama's 2012 Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll with Distinction, for the University's work in serving local communities through volunteer programs

and other activities. In all, Eastern students, faculty and staff donate upwards of 44,000 hours of time annually to local communities, a value of \$1.3 million.

Hartford Courant



In a report published by the Hartford Courant on Sept. 25, 2011, Eastern was also named one of the five top workplaces in Connecticut among large organizations in the Hartford Courant/

Fox Connecticut list of Top Workplaces for 2011. A total of 45 organizations were cited: 20 small, 15 medium and 10 large. Eastern was the only institution of higher education recognized.



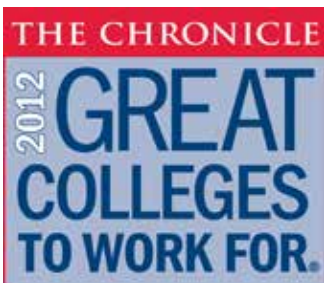
In August 2011, the Princeton Review announced that it had again rated Eastern as one of the Northeast's Best Colleges. In addition, the University was informed that it had been admitted as a member of the New Leadership Alliance for

Student Learning and Accountability. This national advocacy group is committed to gathering, reporting on and using evidence to improve student learning in American undergraduate education.



In recognition of the efforts of the University's Veteran's Educational Transition Services Center, which provides services to ensure that veterans receive the support they need, Eastern was recognized by Military Advanced Education

Magazine in their "2012 Guide to Top Military-Friendly Colleges and Universities" as a university that "enacts academic, support and financial aid policies that favor our members and facilitate their educational pursuits."



For the fourth year in a row, Eastern was named by the Chronicle of Higher Education as a "Great College to Work For" in 2012. Only 103 colleges out of 5,800 institutions of higher education in the United States were awarded the honor.



Eastern was also named one of the nation's Green Colleges for 2012 by The Princeton Review and the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC). This is the third year in a row that Eastern has received the designation.

Notable Student Accomplishments



Kate Harner '12

Eastern students **Kathryn Harner**, an English major from Oxford, and **Brittney Cava**, a political science major from Torrington, were two of 12 Connecticut State University students honored as recipients of the 2012 Henry Barnard Distinguished Student Awards. Harner earned a 4.0 GPA and was on the Dean's List every semester while studying at Eastern; served as president of the student volunteer group People Helping People, and as co-coordinator of Eastern's Fifth Annual "Day of Giving" Thanksgiving meal and food drive; and served as a peer mentor for the First-Year Program and as a volunteer for Joshua's Trust.

Cava completed the majority of her academic studies in just three years, and in the process, maintained an impressive 3.85 GPA. While finishing up her last remaining degree requirements, she worked full time as an Ameri-Corps VISTA member in Eastern's Center for Community Engagement (CCE), coordinating more than 200 Eastern

volunteers each semester who contributed more than 2,000 hours of service at 20 different locations in and around Willimantic; and spent a summer in Washington, D.C., at Georgetown University's prestigious Institute on Philanthropy and Volunteerism.



Brittney Cava '12

"A Common Life," a documentary video produced by four Eastern students in Communication Professor **Denise Matthews'** Documentary Video Production class in fall 2011, won third place in the Audience Choice category at the Trinity Film Festival in May.

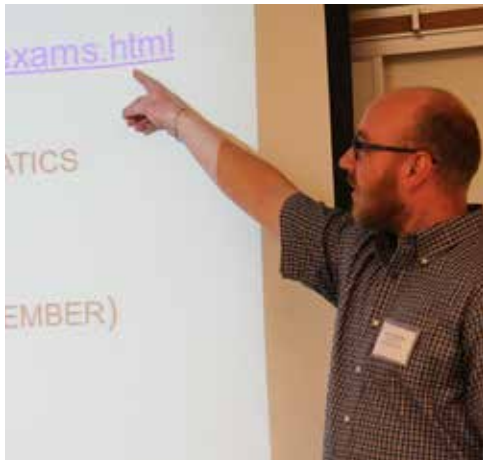
The film was selected from student entries from across the country to compete in the festival. Student producers included Communication majors **Jenn Silva**, **Katherine McManus**, **Stephanie LaPointe** and **Tim Crouse**. McManus and LaPointe are also Performing Arts majors.

The documentary is about a married couple living in Lebanon who adopted a boy named Christian from the Connecticut Department of Child and Families. Christian began kindergarten at the Lebanon Elementary school this past fall. Christian and his parents are living a common life in every way except one — Christian's parents, Eastern Professor of Music **David Belles**, and his husband, **Eric Oulette**, are both males.

"A Common Life" also won the top award at the Eastern Video and Animation Festival in April, and was featured at Eastern's School of Education and Professional Studies Excellence Expo.



Stephanie LaPointe, left, and Katharine McManus, two members of the four-person team who made the film, "A Common Life."



Colton Alexander

Eastern students **Richard Magner, Colton Alexander and Robert McDonald** placed second out of 21 teams in the sixth Collegiate Mathematics Competition on Nov. 18, 2011, at Connecticut College in New London. The event, sponsored

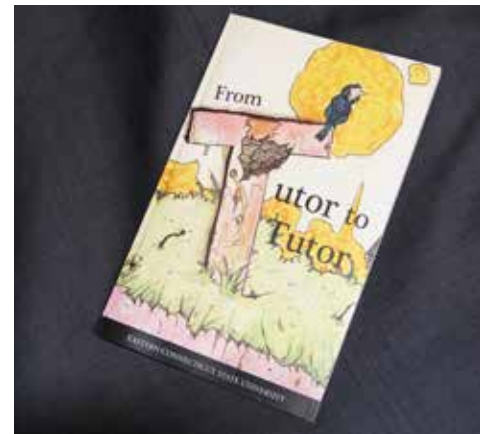
by the Northeastern

Section of the Mathematical Association of America, was open to undergraduate students throughout the Northeast. The Eastern students participated against teams from Bridgewater State University, Norwich University, Sacred Heart University, Merrimack College, Connecticut College, Gordon College, Amherst College, Salem State University, Southern Connecticut State University, the University of Maine, Worcester State University, Keene State College and Westfield State University.

Eleven students from Eastern's chapter of the American Marketing Association demonstrated their excellence at the **34th Annual International Collegiate AMA (American Marketing Association) Conference** in New Orleans, LA, in March. Eastern's AMA chapter took home a number of awards, including Outstanding Chapter Plan, Outstanding Annual Report, Outstanding Community Service and Outstanding Professional Development. The chapter also received awards for raising organ donor awareness through AMA Saves Lives by placing fourth in both Video Uploads and Facebook Posts. The awards were the result of a year-long competition in various categories against other universities' AMA chapters. The

conference brought together more than 1,400 students and their faculty advisors so that students could learn about career paths within the marketing field from experienced representatives of top companies.

In fall 2011, Eastern published "From Tutor to Tutor: A Guidebook for Writers," a book written by student tutors under the leadership of **Lauren Rosenberg**, associate professor of English and coordinator of Eastern's First Year Writing program. The idea of a student-authored text arose in fall 2009 when tutor-trainees in Rosenberg's Tutoring Writing class began discussing the possibility of creating a book of essays, lore and tips for new tutors, authored solely by writing tutors. The book was designed to be a resource for anyone who works with student writers, and offers a wide range of ideas for consulting with people about their writing.



Student tutors published their own guide to tutoring.

"From Tutor to Tutor" is composed of 18 essays that range from dealing with plagiarism to working with English-as-a-Second-Language students to handling unexpected experiences during tutoring sessions. Each essay is written by a student trained in Writing Center theory and pedagogy in either Eastern's Tutoring Writing or Composition and Theory Pedagogy courses.

"Tutor to Tutor" was made possible through a Title III grant coordinated by **Margaret Martin**, professor of social work, as well as through a Project Compass grant with the support of **Carmen Cid**, dean of the School of Arts and Sciences.



American Marketing Association students at the 34th Annual International Collegiate AMA Conference in New Orleans, LA



(Seated) Anna Sobanski, Library Director Pat Banach and Andrew Minikowski

Library Research Award Winners

The winners of the **Library Research Award for 2012** were announced in May. The award has been established to recognize and celebrate exemplary student research projects that demonstrate the ability to locate, evaluate, select and apply information from appropriate library resources.

Primary emphasis is placed on the creative and effective use of library resources, services and collections encompassing print, microform and online databases.

Anna Sobanski of Glastonbury won in the freshman/sophomore category for her paper, “True Stories by Matilda Laimo and Harry Potter.”

Andrew Minikowski ’12 of Colchester won the prize in the junior/senior category for his paper, “A Bullet or Siberia: Pride, Redemption and Character Relationships in Dostoevsky’s Crime and Punishment.”



Maiyah Gamble-Rivers ’12

Maiyah Gamble-Rivers, a senior from Providence, RI, majoring in Visual Arts, was honored for her exemplary service to community at the **Connecticut Higher Education Community Service Awards** ceremony on April 24. Gamble Rivers was one of two winners in the Individual Student Award category. She organized a two-day Arts and Culture Series in November for nearly 200 elementary school students, exposing

them to workshops in the visual arts, dance, performing arts and music. More than 50 student volunteers from Eastern led interactive projects for the youngsters. The program has since become a core activity involving Eastern and Windham Public Schools.



Salome Miclette ’12

Four Eastern communication students presented their work at this year’s **National Conference for Undergraduate Research (NCUR)** in Ogden, UT, on March 29. The students included senior **Salome Miclette**, who presented her thesis, “Cosmopolitan Magazine and the Second Wave Feminist Movement: A Cross-Cultural Analysis,” and seniors **Timothy Snopkowski**, **Todd Buckholt** and **Colin Dunn**, who presented their

work, “Twitter: The Uncensored Loudspeaker for Professional Athletes.” The annual conference gives undergraduate scholars from a wide range of institutions of higher learning a forum to share the results of their work through posters, presentations, performances and works of art.

Faculty/Staff Achievements and Awards



Associate Professor of Environmental Earth Science Peter Drzewiecki takes students on a field trip to the Willimantic River.

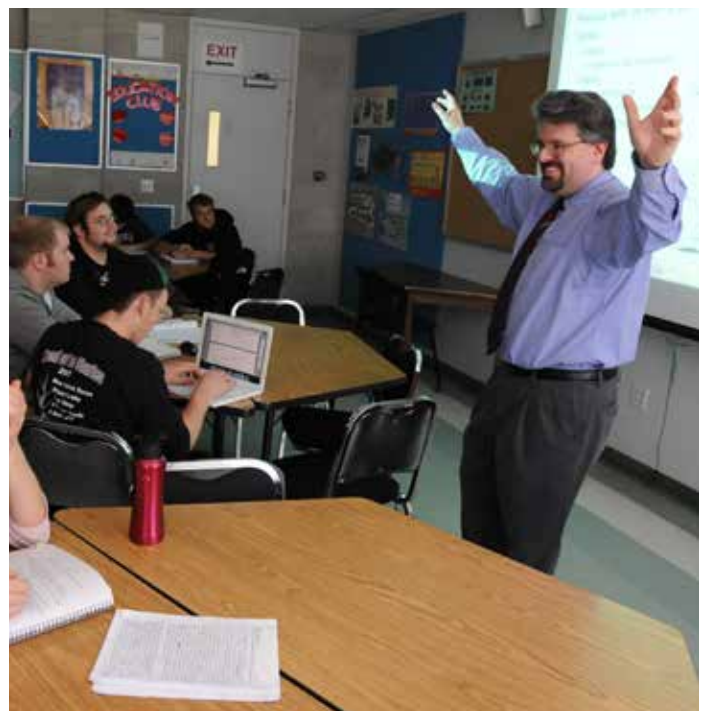
Peter Drzewiecki, associate professor of environmental earth science and assistant chair of the Department of Environmental Earth Science, was named the System Winner of the Board of Regents/CSU Teaching Award on May 18. Drzewiecki was recognized for his innovative use of outside-the-classroom education, including a mix of lab, field trips and student research projects. He has established an internship program for geology majors at the Connecticut Geological Survey, and his students frequently present results of their research at regional professional conferences and campus symposia.

Two faculty colleagues sum up Drzewiecki's ability to reach and teach undergraduate students: "The tone of his classes is always very positive and supportive, and the students seem to genuinely enjoy and learn from the discussions he fosters. His hands-on approach that has students directly engage the material, no doubt makes him a very effective teacher."

"I have seen students who considered themselves mediocre based on grades emerge from projects with Dr. Drzewiecki with increased confidence and higher standards of academic performance."

The BOR/CSU Teaching Award is granted to faculty members who have "distinguished themselves as outstanding teachers for at least five years and have a minimum of a two-year track record of promoting instructional improvements for their programs or departments."

Jamel Oswald, associate professor of history, was honored at the campus level for his research work. Oswald has compiled an impressive record of research and creative activity and recently published "Vaubaun Under Siege: Engineering Efficiency and Martial Vigor in the War of the Spanish Succession," an award-winning book on military history.



Associate Professor of History Jamel Oswald



Ricardo Torres, left, executive director of ODAEE, and Ubaldo Enrique Meza, right, president of the National Congress for a Quality Education Foundation of Colombia, congratulate Jaime Gómez, center, after conferring an Honorary Degree.

In October 2011, the **Organization of the Americas for Educational Excellence (ODAEE)**, through two universities — the College of Graduate Studies of Mexico City and the Catholic University of Cuenca in Ecuador — conferred a Doctor Honoris Causa/Honorary Degree upon **Jaime Gómez**, interim dean of the School of Education and Professional Studies and the Graduate Division. Gómez was honored “in recognition of his great contribution in the development of the sciences, arts and letters.” He was also presented with a Special Recognition Diploma for his “outstanding research and education in the areas of information communication technology (ICT) in the field of education.”

In April, the **Foundation for the Defense of Democracies**, a non-partisan policy institute headquartered in Washington, D.C., named **Caitlin Carenen**, assistant professor of history, an “Academic Fellow” for 2012-13. Carenen, who teaches courses in American history, foreign policy, terrorism and religion, and a course on the history of U.S.-Middle East relations, traveled to Israel at the end of May for an intensive course in terrorism studies, and in particular, how democracies can defeat the worldwide terrorist threat.



Caitlin Carenen, assistant professor of history

In November, **David Belles**, associate professor of music, made his conducting debut at Carnegie Hall as part of the **MidAmerica Production Concert Series**. Belles’ role as conductor was the culmination of a five-day Carnegie Hall residency that he was awarded in recognition of his national reputation in the field of choral music and the musicianship and artistry he brings to the stage. Eastern’s Concert Chorus joined Belles on stage during a Nov. 13 concert.



Visiting Assistant Professor Lynn Maxfield and Eastern Professor David Belles in front of Carnegie Hall in New York, where Belles made his conducting debut last November.

Imna Arroyo, CSU professor of printmaking, was named the recipient of the **Outstanding Latino/a Cultural Arts, Fine and Performing Arts Award** by the American Association of Hispanics in Higher Education (AAHHE). The AAHHE presented the award to Arroyo at a special awards luncheon on March 10, during its seventh annual conference in Costa Mesa, CA. Arroyo was selected by a panel of experts in higher education, based on her sustained contributions to greater understanding of the Hispanic community and culture through the arts.



Imna Arroyo critiques student art in a printmaking class.



In May, English Professor **Raouf Mama** was named Eastern's 2012-13 Distinguished Professor and Education Professor and Phyllis Waite Endowed Chair **Jeffrey Trawick-Smith** was recognized for being named a CSU Professor.

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Professor Neal Pease, president of the Polish American Historical Association, presents the Haiman Medal to History Professor Anna Kirchmann.

In January, at the **Consulate General of the Republic of Poland** in Chicago, History Professor **Anna Kirchmann** received the Haiman Medal, the highest distinction awarded by the Polish American Historical Association (PAHA). PAHA is based in the United States and has been active since the early 1940s. The Haiman Medal is awarded annually to an American scholar for sustained scholarly contribution to Polish American Studies.

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Carmen Cid, dean of the School of Arts and Sciences, was named the first recipient of the **American Council on Education's Women's Network/Connecticut Women in Higher Education Distinguished Woman in Higher Education Leadership Award** in March 2012. This award was created to recognize and honor women who have distinguished themselves by providing outstanding leadership in their institutions, in their profession and in society at large.



From left to right: Martha Shouldis, president and CEO of St. Vincent College; Carmen Cid, dean of arts and sciences; Henriette Pranger, dean of faculty, Goodwin College; and Christine Boronico, associate vice president for retention, University of New Haven

In April, **Nancy Tinker**, director of facilities management and planning, was named the recipient of the third annual **"Woman of Accomplishment" Award** by the **Professional Women in Construction Connecticut Chapter (PWC-CT)**. PWC-CT supports education in the fields of architecture, construction and engineering, and recognizes ongoing professional excellence with its annual awards. The "Woman of Accomplishment" award, instituted by PWC-CT in 2010, is designed to honor a woman who has been working in the architecture, engineering and construction industry for at least 15 years, and who exemplifies outstanding professional achievement, performance and contributions within her field of endeavor.



PWC-CT President Wendy Venoit, right, presents Nancy Tinker with the "Woman of Accomplishment" award.

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LaQuana Price, assistant director of admissions, was named by the College Board as the 2012 recipient of its **Edward B. Wall Award in College Counseling-Admission** on Jan. 31. The award, which was presented at the Renaissance Boston Waterfront Hotel during the Regional Awards Luncheon of the 2012 New England Regional Forum, recognizes the service and leadership of a college admission professional in the College Board's New England Regional Assembly who mentors and supports the professional development of new college admission counselors and advisors and advances the mission of the College Board.



Andrea Mainelli, senior vice president for the College Board's Region and Account Services, congratulates LaQuana Price after presenting her the Board's Edward B. Wall Award in College Counseling-Admission.



In January, **Peter Bachiochi**, professor of psychology, was named recipient of the **Humanitarian of the Year Award** from the International Foundation Willimantic Lions Club. Bachiochi has been faculty advisor of Eastern's Habitat for Humanity student organization for more than 10 years. Of special significance to the Lions, Bachiochi has co-coordinated several Partnership for Humanity projects in which Lions Club members and Habitat for Humanity student organization members work together, painting the homes of needy Willimantic residents.

Eastern President **Elsa Núñez** received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the **Connecticut Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission** on Oct. 22, 2011, at the Amaranthe's Sea Cliff Restaurant in New Haven.



Academics

Intellectual discovery and discourse is at the heart of a liberal arts college. Eastern's academic life encompasses the entire campus and affects each member of the community in ways big and small.

In April, a record 120 students presented at the **School of Education and Professional Studies 11th Annual Research Conference and Exhibition**. More than 40 oral presentations covered such topics as the geology of Andover Lake; the anatomy and physiology of coral competition; the media's influence on public opinion of war; an analysis of the Harry Potter books; sustainable energy and the workforce; ancient Greek history; the history of Irish-American women in Willimantic; and Alzheimer's Disease.

More than 235 students, along with 13 faculty mentors, participated in the **School of Education and Professional Studies 12th Annual Excellence Expo** in May. Students from the Business Administration, Communication, Economics, Education, and Health and Physical Education Departments

presented their research projects in a number of venues on campus. Presentations included health education curriculum electronic portfolios; early childhood education presentations; a photography exhibit; a poster research competition; and research sessions utilizing technology.



Communication major Tulin Karasay '12 presents her findings at the 12th Annual Excellence Expo.



"TinkerToys" was the 2011 Timpani toy.

In November 2011, Eastern's **Center for Early Childhood Education** announced the winner of its second annual Toy to Inspire Mindful Play and Nurture Imagination (TIMPANI) study. The TIMPANI Study is an empirically based research program in which Eastern's Early Childhood Education students and faculty examine how young children in natural settings play with a variety of toys. The research team screens toys and then evaluates them by observing children using them in play. This year's winner was the TINKERTOY construction set, a toy made by Pawtucket, RI-based Hasbro, Inc., under its globally popular PLAYSKOOL brand.

"It was very interesting to see how some toys encourage children to use their imagination, taking something simple to create something very unusual," said **Kelly Zimmermann**, an Eastern graduate student in early childhood education who was responsible for videotaping the toys and coding the videos according to the evaluation rubric. Zimmermann and Professor **Jeffrey Trawick-Smith**, Eastern's Phyllis Waite Endowed Chair of Early Childhood Education, also presented the results of the study at the National Association for the Education of Young Children conference in Orlando.

The **Institute for Sustainable Energy (ISE)** hosted The Green Campus Conference in the Paul E. Johnson Sr. Community Conference Room on April 19. The event brought more than 100 administrators, faculty and students from Connecticut's 17 public colleges and universities to Eastern to discuss financing green campus initiatives and the technology involved. It was also a celebration of the 10th anniversary of the ISE.

At the conference, energy experts spoke on issues surrounding financing green campus projects and the latest energy technology. Eastern also provided tours of the University's LEED-designed facilities, building automated systems and 400KW Fuel Cell.



Judy Harris Helm delivered the keynote address at the Early Childhood Investigations Conference.

More than 125 early childhood educators attended Eastern's **Early Childhood Investigations Conference** on April 27. The conference theme was "Using Projects to Foster Children's Cognitive Development." Visitors from across the state of Connecticut attended the day-long conference, co-hosted by the Center for Early Childhood Education and the Child and Family Development Resource Center. **Judy Harris Helm**, author, early childhood consultant and president of Best Practices, Inc., delivered the keynote address, "Projects That Power Young Minds: You Can Do It and Here's How." The conference was designed for preschool and toddler teachers, administrators and teacher educators who are interested in learning more about using projects with young children. Presenters came from New Hampshire, Massachusetts and Illinois.



"All environments are in decline; we want progress without pollution," said Tony Cortese, president of Second Nature, in his keynote luncheon address at The Green Campus Conference.

Experiential Learning

Eastern's tagline is "A Liberal Education. Practically Applied." Eastern students apply their learning through internships, service learning, paid co-ops, research projects and other practical experiences. More than 75 percent of our students report they have had applied learning experiences before graduation — 59 percent have had an internship or co-op; 12 percent have done research; 54 percent have performed community service co-op; and 10 percent have studied abroad.

Eastern students have interned in all corners of the country — from the Connecticut State Capitol, to Disney World, ESPN, St. Francis Hospital, the Connecticut Science Center, and dozens of other locations. Students also earn money in paid co-ops right here on campus in our new "Work Hub."

In fall 2011, Eastern opened the Work Hub in Winthrop Hall to allow students the opportunity to develop practical skills as they work for private companies and other organizations, without having to leave campus. In the past, students sometimes have had difficulty traveling to off-campus internships — lack of transportation, gas prices, time expended and other considerations have been a hurdle to take an off-campus internship. The Work Hub helps solve that problem. The facility features separate offices, computer technology and other professional workplace resources so that students literally "go to work" for private and public sector clients.



Joshua Cyr '12 interned for WTIC-TV FOX 61



Kemesha Wilmot, assistant director in the Office of Internships and Career Development, counsels a student on career options.



Amanda Conkey visits with Daisy Duck during her Disney World internship.

The World is Our Classroom

*Accompanied by Associate Professors of Communication **Olugbenga Ayeni** and **Denise Matthews**, a group of 18 students traveled to London and Paris in late May to learn about different platforms of European media and how they compare to American media. The trip coincided with the students' European Media course taken prior to the trip, which covered all aspects of intercultural and global communication across media platforms. Visiting the BBC Studios in London allowed students to see how weather reporters use "green screen" technology.*



*Over winter break, 15 students visited Turkey, accompanied by History Professors **David Fry** and **Caitlin Carenen**. They visited local artisans as well as toured such archeological sites as the Hagia Sophia in Istanbul; a World War I site in Gallipoli; and the Library at Ephesus.*



In March, the Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Social Work sponsored a global field course in Jamaica. Eastern students served as teaching aides at an infant, primary, junior high and/or high school in Hanover and St. James parishes in Jamaica. Students also had the opportunity to study ecotourism; interact with Jamaican teachers and students; and experience Jamaican culture and history.



*From May 19-29, 12 Eastern students accompanied Art Professor **Gail Gelburd** on a global field course in Cuba. They went to the 11th Havana Biennale Festival, visited artists in the city, toured museums, art galleries and art schools, and also journeyed to Cienfuegos where they swam in the Bay of Pigs.*

Student Support

Students, faculty and staff, including those who are veterans, attended Eastern's Veterans Day services on Nov. 11 in the Student Center. In addition to current Armed Services personnel, other veterans attended the ceremony in their dress uniforms. Guest speaker **Army Major Glenn Colby**, a decorated veteran who has served in the military for 27 years, reminded the audience that war impacts the families of soldiers in addition to those who serve on the front lines. "I am very proud of the veterans on this campus." Following the formal ceremony, the **Third Annual Veterans Day Challenge** was held on campus. Teams of students, faculty and staff engaged in physical challenges to raise \$2,200 for the Veterans Scholarship.

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In April, Eastern was the first college campus in the nation to host **Fresh Check Day** — a concept created by **The Jordan Matthew Porco Memorial Foundation**, which is designed to bring the campus community together to "check-in" on the mental health and wellness of college students. Fresh Check Day helped Eastern to change the conversation about mental health on campus and get everyone involved in taking care of one another. All events were organized by the Offices of Counseling and Psychological Services and Student Activities, student volunteers and representatives of the Jordan Matthew Porco Memorial Foundation.

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More than 75 students and their families visited Webb Hall on Jan. 29 to get one-on-one expert advice on financial aid and planning for college during **College Goal Sunday**. Eastern was one of 12 locations around the state participating in the annual event. Students and their families talked with financial aid counselors and college staff to become familiar with college entrance requirements, learn about planning for college, and obtain on-site assistance in filling out financial aid applications. In addition, valuable information was shared about the benefits of attending college, student support services, areas of study and degree programs.

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The **Academic Services Center** continued to be a popular place for students to seek tutoring, advising and other academic support. In 2011-12, approximately 2,000 students visited the center, logging more than 10,000 unique visits. Other enhancements to academic support included the development of online graduate admissions; the creation of a summer orientation program for transfer students; the adoption of the Common Application; and the development of two living/learning communities in the form of two residence hall floors dedicated to Honors and Community Engagement.



Community Engagement

Approximately 400 local Willimantic residents enjoyed a special meal at Eastern's fifth annual **Day of Giving** in November. Students, faculty and staff volunteers served the meal in Eastern's Hurley Hall, with food donated by **Chartwells Food Services**, local grocery stores and the **ECSU Foundation, Inc.** In addition to a Thanksgiving repast for community residents who might otherwise not have had a holiday meal, Eastern students led a month-long canned goods drive for local food pantries. The 2011 event was organized by members of Eastern's student clubs **People Helping People** and **Best Buddies**, and led by **Center for Community Engagement (CCE)** staff.

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Hundreds of Eastern volunteers, including students, faculty and staff, led the cheering as more than 300 athletes participated in the **33rd Annual Windham Invitational Special Olympics Swim Meet** in March at Windham High School. Eastern Chemistry Professor **Charles Wynn** has directed the meet for the past 18 years. Eastern's student partners made sure the athletes got to their registered events; cheered them on; got them involved in activities when they were not swimming; and helped out with sports clinics, food service and water safety.

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In April, the Eastern student chapter of **Habitat for Humanity** collaborated with the **Connecticut Special Olympics** on the annual **Jail N' Bail** fundraiser and brought in bonds totaling more than \$8,000 — smashing the record for previous Jail N' Bail events. The event began with warrants being issued to "arrest" specific students and faculty members. When the participants arrived at the "jail," their bail was set by a "judge." The prisoners were then kept busy contacting friends and family to come and bail them out. All funds raised were donated to Habitat for Humanity and the Special Olympics.

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For many years, Eastern has hosted blood drives each semester. For the fourth drive this year, Eastern students **Tanika Dixon**, **Daasha Mallory** and **Leah Hershberger**, all social work majors, ventured into the Willimantic community to talk with business owners and school directors in an effort to recruit new Latino blood donors, as well as sign them up for the bone marrow registry, which ran concurrently with the blood drive. The students designed flyers to distribute in the schools and community in both English and Spanish. At day's end, 144 students, faculty, staff and community members had donated 110 productive pints of blood. In addition, 32 student volunteers worked 58 hours helping donors.



The Day of Giving serves Thanksgiving Dinner to more than 400 local residents each year.



Windham Special Olympics swim meet — all smiles!



This year's Jail 'N Bail raised more than \$8,000 for Habitat for Humanity and Special Olympics.



As part of the annual Dean's Cup competition, the 12 residence halls collected Box Tops for Education this year to donate to the Natchaug Elementary School Parent Teacher Organization (PTO). Pictured are (left to right starting in the back): Angela Bazin, director of housing; Tony Gleason, WSA hall director; Paul Serignese, assistant director of housing; Mr. Jeff Wibbey, principal of Natchaug Elementary School; Shelissa Newball, WSA hall director; Walter Diaz, dean of students; and Lauren Townley, teacher and co-chair of Natchaug PTO.

Eastern's Dean's Cup raised \$2,500 for the Willimantic Teen Center this year, as well as \$600 for the Natchaug Elementary School PTA. The Dean's Cup is an annual competition between 12 residence halls, with each hall given the opportunity to display their commitment to personal and academic success along with hall and school spirit. The residence hall with the most points at the end of the competition is awarded the Dean's Cup. This year, **Constitution Hall** walked off with top honors. Since the Dean's Cup competition began, residence halls have raised \$12,600 for Willimantic community agencies.

The **Community Life Improvement Project (CLIP)** at Eastern, a collaborative effort between the University and the local Willimantic community to promote a drug and alcohol-free community, held a kick-off event on May 3 on the Student Center patio. The CLIP coalition, formed in October 2011, consists of University faculty, staff and students, and local community leaders, residents, landlord and liquor license holders. The CLIP program is supported by a four-year, \$300,000 grant from the **State Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS)**.



Windham Mayor Ernie Eldridge (center) joins President Núñez and other officials at the CLIP kick-off.

Eastern again was host to the annual **American Cancer Society's Relay for Life**, held June 2 at the Mansfield Sports Complex. One hundred and eighteen cancer survivors and more than 400 supporters began the 24-hour fundraising walk at 11 a.m. on Saturday, circling the Eastern baseball field despite the light rain. This is the 11th year in a row that Eastern has hosted the Windham Relay for Life, now in its 16th year. Over the years, thousands of walkers have raised more than \$2 million in support of cancer research and support.



Professor Charles Chatterton

More than 125 runners participated in the **Third Annual Poverty Awareness Marathon** on Sept. 23, 2011, to help Health and Physical Education Professor **Charles Chatterton's** "Taking Strides to Brake the Cycle of Poverty" initiative. The marathon was Chatterton's 48th since he began running them in 2006 to raise public awareness on poverty in America. Participants also collected more than 600 nonperishable items to donate to the **Covenant Soup Kitchen** in Willimantic.

Eastern faculty, students and staff again participated in the annual **Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics** on June 7. The event takes place throughout the United States as well as in other countries, and celebrated its 30th anniversary last year. In 2011, the Torch Run raised \$42 million around the world in support of Special Olympics. Eastern's event this year was coordinated by Lieutenant **Tom Madera** and Officer **Dave DeNunzio**.

More than 100 Eastern students joined community members to participate in Windham's and Willimantic's **Town Pride, Town Wide** event on April 28. Town Pride, Town Wide brings students and residents together with local nonprofit organizations and town parks to give the towns of Windham and Willimantic a face lift. Town Pride, Town Wide also encourages Willimantic residents, clubs, organizations, town leaders and local businesses to enhance their own property or to make monetary or in-kind donation for improvement projects. The event culminated with a celebration and lunch provided by local businesses.



Special Olympics Torch Run



Eastern students take a break from painting the Jillson Square gazebo during Town Pride, Town Wide day.

Student Activities

Students enjoy a rich array of activities on campus, ranging from student club events to events sponsored by the **Campus Activity Board (CAB)**. In 2011-12, CAB sponsored 142 events ranging from concerts to comedians, poetry slams, socials, weekend programs, and sporting events, with a total of 18,744 attendees. All told, the Student Center hosted 2,534 events in 2011-12 with a total number of 45,000 attendees.

In addition, more than 1,600 students participated in 194 intramural teams during the year. The **Student Government Association** provided leadership and coordination for more than 74 student clubs ranging from the **Entrepreneurship Club** to the **Competitive Cheerleading Squad**, involving more than 1,620 students.



Campus Culture

Award-winning author **Salman Rushdie** opened Eastern's 11th Annual Arts and Lecture Series in October 2011. During his talk, Rushdie explored the role that fiction and poetry play in revealing the impact of external forces on individual character and the human condition, what he called "the collision of public and private lives" and the struggle between individual freedom and power. The Arts and Lecture Series continued on Nov. 14 with a lecture by television and film actor **Dan Lauria**, best known for his portrayal of Jack Arnold on the American television series, "The Wonder Years," which ran from 1988 to 1993. In February, the **U.S. Coast Guard Dixieland Jazz Band** brought its special brand of classic jazz, blues and New Orleans ragtime to Eastern's Shafer Auditorium. Veteran journalist and news correspondent **Laura Ling** wrapped up the series in March.



Salman Rushdie



Dan Lauria



U.S. Coast Guard Dixieland Jazz Band



Laura Ling

Faculty and staff shared information on how to engage Eastern students and faculty in raising awareness and promoting social justice on campus. **Starsheemar Byrum**, coordinator of Eastern's Women's Center, discussed the center's plans to raise social justice awareness during the spring semester. Visual Arts Professors **Imna Arroyo** and **Mark Gerard McKee** also provided a rich historical presentation on the importance and impact of art and dissent, and the power of images on civil discourse.

In fall 2011, the Akus Gallery hosted an exhibition that explored the mass migration of Ethiopian Jews into modern Israeli society and the difficulties of integration they faced.



"The Ethiopian Jews of Israel" exhibit

South African photojournalist **Ilan Ossendryver** discussed the exhibition on Oct. 27, 2011, in Shafer Hall Auditorium. **Len Lyons**, author of "The Ethiopian Jews of Israel: Personal Stories of the Life in the Promised Land," a recent publication featuring Ossendryver's photography, signed books during a reception in the gallery. The exhibition, which was on view through Dec. 8, featured a 20-minute

short film of a mass airlift in 1991, and displayed photographs of the Ethiopian Jews migration from Africa to Israel from the early 1980s through the present.



Governor Dannel Malloy and Eastern President Elsa Núñez on the "Walk a Mile in Her Shoes" march

On April 17, **Gov. Dannel Malloy** joined more than 150 Eastern students, faculty and staff in the "**Walk a Mile In Her Shoes**" march. The walk began in front of the Student Center, proceeded to downtown Willimantic and traveled back up High Street to campus. "Walk a Mile In Her Shoes" was coordinated by Eastern's Women's Center to raise awareness of sexual assault and violence towards women.



“The Island,” written by Japanese playwright Hotta Kiyomi, was performed Oct. 27–Nov. 2. The play was the first drama about the atomic bomb to receive national attention in Japan. It was directed by **David Pellegrini**, associate professor of theatre history and chair of Eastern’s Performing Arts Department. Theatre students also performed “Thieves’ Carnival” in spring 2012. “Thieves’ Carnival” was written by French playwright Jean Anouilh in 1932 and translated by Lucienne Hill; the performance was directed by **j.j. Cobb**, assistant professor of theatre.



Fresh off a performance at Carnegie Hall in New York City, the Eastern Concert Chorale and Chamber Singers joined the Concert Choir of Northeastern Connecticut and the Diocesan Choir of Norwich to delight an audience of more than 400 people on Nov. 22 at the Cathedral of St. Patrick in Norwich. The Chorale presented Haydn’s “Te Deum” and Mozart’s “Coronation Mass” with full orchestra and soloists.

Celebrating Diversity



Three Kings Day Celebration at Eastern

A study of faculty at American universities by the U.S. Department of Education's Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) confirmed that Eastern Connecticut State University has the largest percentage of minority faculty of all higher education institutions in Connecticut. Twenty-six percent of Eastern's faculty members are minorities, compared to 16 percent at Yale and Central Connecticut State Universities; 15 percent at the University of Connecticut and Southern Connecticut State University; and 14 percent at Western Connecticut State University.

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From left: Marci Reisman, Margaret Hebert, Xae Alicia Reyes and Wiley Dawson

More than 300 area children, their families and friends celebrated **Three Kings Day** in Eastern's Sports Center on Jan. 6. United States Senator **Richard Blumenthal**; **Donald Williams**, President Pro Tempore of the Connecticut State Senate; Connecticut Secretary of the State **Denise Merrill**; State Rep. **Susan Johnson** (D-Windham); and Windham Mayor **Ernest Eldridge** joined Eastern President **Elsa Núñez** to greet the guests. The event, hosted by Eastern and organized for the ninth year by Windham's **Colectivo Mestizal**, celebrates the Feast of the Three Kings, a day in Latin American cultures when children receive their Christmas gifts. The Three Kings Day is also supported by the **Town of Windham** and the town's Department of Recreation and Department of Human Services.

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From left: Christy Calkins, LaShawn McBride, Eastern President Elsa Núñez and Ashley Lovett

Eastern seniors **Wiley Dawson Jr.** and **Marci Reisman**, University of Connecticut Professor **Xae Alicia Reyes** and Eastern retiree **Margaret Hebert** were recognized with **Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Distinguished Service Awards** at a reception in the J. Eugene Smith Library on March 14. The awards recognize members of the campus community and community-at-large whose actions demonstrate distinguished service in promoting the ideals of King and to further the goals of diversity and social equality.

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Executive Vice President Michael Pernal (left) with Latin American Distinguished Service Award winners William Stover, Luz Burgos and Omar Rodriguez

Ashley Lovett, a junior from Marlborough majoring in sociology; Eastern alumna **LaShawn McBride '93**, coordinator of human resources programs for the University; and **Christy Calkins**, assistant program director of Journey House, a local living facility for adolescent girls, were named recipients of the **Ella T. Grasso Distinguished Service Awards** on March 28. The award recognizes leaders who have made contributions towards advancing women's rights and issues of gender equality.

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On April 25, **Latin American Distinguished Service Awards** were presented to **Luz Burgos**, an Eastern residence hall director; **William Stover**, director of supplemental services for Windham Public Schools; and Eastern student **Omar Rodriguez '12**. The award recognizes individuals who have performed extraordinary service in support of the Latin-American community by either developing or contributing to programs or activities that focus on positive development of minority youth and/or foster minority educational opportunities and advancement.

Athletics

Thirty-two Eastern student-athletes representing all six fall sports earned spots on the fall 2011 **Little East Conference All-Academic Team**. Among the eight full-fledged LEC member institutions, Eastern recorded the second-highest total of all-academic team qualifiers in the fall. That was followed up with 18 selections from winter sports and 25 from spring sports for a total of 75 student-athletes earning All-Academic honors in the 2011–12 academic year. To qualify for the team, a student-athlete must have reached sophomore athletic and academic status with a cumulative grade-point average of 3.30.

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The women's softball team — third and fifth in the nation the previous two years — fell just short of returning to the national NCAA Division III Tournament in Salem, VA, in 2012. The Warriors finished second at the NCAA Division III New England Regional Tournament held May 10-13 on Eastern's new softball field at the Mansfield Sports Complex. The team finished the year with an overall record of 44-3, breaking the program's all-time record for victories. The team also won the Little East Conference for the third year in a row. Eastern senior right-handed pitcher/designated player **Molly Rathbun** of Hebron and junior third baseman **Arielle Cooper** of Mystic were named to the 2012 National Fastpitch Coaches' Association (NFCA) Division III All-America team. Rathbun is the first member of the program to earn the honor each season of a four-year career.

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Eastern's men's basketball team had one of its most successful seasons ever, advancing to the NCAA Division III Sweet 16 for the first time since 1992. Eastern ended the season with a 24-6 record, the most wins ever in the program. Senior **Nick Nedwick** became the second player in Eastern history to be selected to the National Association of Basketball Coaches (NABC) All-Northeast District Team. Head Coach **William Geitner** was named Northeast District Coach-of-the-Year, the first Eastern coach to receive the honor.

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The men's lacrosse team won its LEC conference tournament for the seventh time in 12 years. Sophomore midfielder **Mike Devine** of Cheshire was named Division III men's lacrosse honorable mention All-America by the United States Intercollegiate Lacrosse Association.



The Generosity of Eastern Friends

In September 2011, Eastern dedicated the new Virginia and Charles Prewitt Office of Peace and Human Rights, located in Room 110 of Goddard Hall. **Charles Prewitt**, professor emeritus at Eastern, donated more than \$90,000 to the Eastern Connecticut State University Foundation, Inc., in honor of his late beloved wife, Virginia, to support the operations of the Peace and Human Rights Office and to provide additional scholarship support to students interested in the cause of peace and human rights. In 2002, Prewitt and his wife had established the **Virginia and Charles Prewitt Peace and Human Rights Studies Endowment** to support students who are active in the community and demonstrate an interest in peace and human rights.

On April 12, nearly 300 Eastern students filled the Betty R. Tipton Room to attend the annual **ECSU Foundation Competitive Scholarship** reception. The foundation awarded scholarships to students totaling a record \$450,000 for the 2012-13 academic year. The competitive scholarship awards are based on merit and, in many cases, unmet financial need. The scholarship process is coordinated by the **Office of Institutional Advancement** in concert with the **Office of Financial Aid**.



ECSU Foundation Board Member Tim Coppage, Professor Barbara Tucker and President Núñez



Distinguished Service Award winner Arthur Vertefeuille '60; Distinguished Alumni Award winner Jeffrey Benedict '91; Professor Emeritus Ralph Yulo; President Núñez; and Thomas J. Serra '70, Distinguished Service Award winner.

More than 100 alumni and friends attended Eastern Connecticut State University's annual **President's Leadership Luncheon** in the Paul E. Johnson Sr. Community Conference Room on Nov. 4, 2011, to recognize two outstanding donors and four distinguished alumni. **The Savings Institute Bank and Trust Co. (SIBT)** of Willimantic received the **ECSU Foundation Board of Directors Distinguished Donor Award**. SIBT has served Willimantic for almost 170 years, and has been a strong supporter of Eastern for decades.

History Professor **Barbara Tucker**, a leading expert in Connecticut history, received the **ECSU Foundation Distinguished Faculty Donor Award**. Tucker has taught at Eastern for 25 years and written several books on the history of Connecticut industry. In addition to supporting Eastern students by establishing a scholarship fund in honor of her parents in 2000, Tucker has graciously donated to the J. Eugene Smith Library to support Connecticut Studies.

Professor Emeritus **Ralph Yulo** received the Eastern Alumni Association's **Hermann Beckert "Friend of the University" Award**. He is one of the most active donors to the ECSU Foundation, in particular supporting the NRY Scholarship named in honor of him and fellow retired professors **Joe Narotsky** and **David Rand**.

The Alumni Association also presented **Distinguished Service Awards** to **Arthur Vertefeuille '60** and **Thomas J. Serra '70**. **Jeffrey Benedict '91**, author of such books as "Little Pink House," the story of a famous eminent domain case in New London, received the Alumni Association's **2011 Distinguished Alumni Award**.



From left: Niloufar Rezaei, CFDRRC interim director; Dianne Kent, senior specialist for community relations at People's; Renee Goupille, market manager and vice president of People's Storrs office; Kenneth DeLisa, vice president of institutional advancement; and Tricia Willis, financial services manager and assistant vice president of People's branch at the Willimantic Stop & Shop.



President Núñez and Kathy Regan-Pyne '79



The ECSU Foundation's annual golf tournament was held June 18 at the Lake of Isles in North Stonington.

On Nov. 18, 2011, Eastern faculty, students and alumni honored Professor Emeritus **Robert Horrocks** at a lunch reception during the annual **Connecticut Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance Conference** in Cromwell. Horrocks retired in spring 2011, following a 32-year career on Eastern's faculty; during the last 14 years, he chaired the Health and Physical Education (HPE) Department. To honor Professor Horrocks and Professor **Daniel Switchenko**, the two founders of the HPE Department, the **Dr. Robert N. Horrocks and Dr. Daniel B. Switchenko Founders of HPE Endowed Fund** was established in support of HPE or Sport/Leisure Management majors with unmet financial need and to support HPE programs and facilities. This new scholarship fund supersedes the Daniel B. Switchenko Endowed Fund for HPE that was established in 2002.

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On Feb. 2, officials from **People's Bank** visited the Child and Family Development Resource Center (CFDRC) and presented a check to the center as the final installment of the bank's \$25,000 financial donation.

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On June 16, a special "Music to Our Ears" event at the Mohegan Sun brought together 100 Eastern donors to enjoy an evening with Neil Diamond. The event was made possible through the generous sponsorship of the Mohegan Tribal Council and arranged by tribal council member **Kathy Regan-Pyne '79**. Title sponsors of the event included **Webster Bank; Barnes & Noble; Savings Institute Bank and Trust; Manafort Construction; the East Hartford Chamber of Commerce; and Chartwells**. Proceeds from the fundraiser will go towards scholarships and other programs of the ECSU Foundation, Inc.

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The annual **ECSU Foundation, Inc. Golf Tournament** to benefit the Athletics Department was held under sunny skies on June 18, at Lake of Isles in North Stonington. The tournament generated more than \$65,000 with a field of 140 alumni, staff and friends in attendance. Since moving to Lake of Isles in 2006, the tournament has grossed more than \$500,000. **Chartwells** again served as the title sponsor, with **Barnes & Noble College Booksellers, First Niagara Private Client Services** and **Webster Financial Advisors** serving as breakfast sponsors. **Charter Business, Manafort Brothers, and Savings Institute Bank and Trust** rounded out the list of lead sponsors. "We are truly thankful for the support we receive each year from our lead sponsors as well as the businesses that sponsor golfers each June," said **Kenneth DeLisa**, vice president for institutional advancement. "We are blessed to have such wonderful friends of the University."

Eastern Alumni Give Back to the University



Carla Goodwin '69, Wendy Daly '75 and Tim White '81

The **Class of 2012 Alumni Fellows** was inducted on March 14. Inductees included **Carla Goodwin '69**, an elementary education major and a forensic psychologist in Massachusetts; **Dr. Wendy Daly '75**, a psychology major and owner of a leading pediatric clinic in Louisville, KY; and **Tim White '81**, director of collections and operations at the Peabody Museum of Natural History at Yale University.

During a panel discussion in the Paul E. Johnson Sr. Community Conference Room, the Fellows spoke about their careers to a room full of students, faculty and staff. All three Fellows offered similar advice to the students present: “Find a mentor who can help push you.” “Find unexpected opportunities.” “Learn to use the library, even with all the Internet resources today.”

“Today’s Fellows are role models, the kind of graduates we want our students to be,” said President **Elsa Núñez** during the induction luncheon. “For them to come back to our campus to speak with our students about their career success is a wonderful gift to the University.”



From left: Bridget Gallagher '91, partner in the Glastonbury office of the Hartford-area law firm Brown, Paindiris & Scott; Louis Pace '77, chief clerk of the Judicial District of Danbury; Carmen Cid, dean of Eastern's School of Arts and Sciences; Political Science Professor Nicole Krassas, faculty advisor to the Pre-Law Society; Michael Endler '81, partner in the Albany, NY, office of the national law firm Boies, Schiller & Flexner; and Brian Levy, Eastern student and president of the Pre-law Society

On Nov. 10, an inaugural **Pre-Law Society Panel Discussion** was held in Science 301 to enable students considering law school to interact with alumni who are successful attorneys and have forged a variety of law careers.

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On May 12, more than 1,100 people — graduating seniors, their families and various alumni classes from as far back as the Class of 1932 — visited campus for the annual **Eastern Celebrates** festivities. The **Jubilee Class of 1962** was treated to tours of campus and a refreshing lunch in Burr Hall before joining other reunion classes at a special reception in their honor in the Student Center Café. Later in the afternoon, alumni visited with the Class of 2012 under the Big Top Tent to enjoy barbeque, DJ music and the company of other members of the Eastern family.



Ruth Russian '42 and Luva Hoar '42



Wesleyan University President Michael S. Roth speaks at Commencement.

On May 15, 1,230 undergraduates and 88 graduate students celebrated their achievements at Eastern Connecticut State University's 122nd Commencement exercises at the XL Center in Hartford. **Michael S. Roth**, president of Wesleyan University, delivered the Commencement address. He told the graduates he hoped they had learned three things at Eastern: "What you love to do, how to get better at it and how to share that with others . . . I hope that at Eastern you have found something that stirs your soul, that draws what is best from you, that is an activity without which you feel impoverished, denied, not fully human."



Pam Aubin '89, superintendent of the Montville Public Schools; **David Bosso '97**, social studies teacher at Berlin High School and Connecticut's 2012 Teacher of the Year; and **Katie Firth '05/'08 M.S.**, fourth-grade teacher at Sweeney Elementary School in Windham, returned to campus on April 20 to serve as the panel at an education symposium that addressed the topic, "Effective Teaching in Today's Classroom." The event was hosted by the Office of Institutional Advancement and the **Education Department** in the Johnson Room of the J. Eugene Smith Library.



David Bosso '97, Pam Aubin '89 and Katie Firth '05 speak about effective teaching at an April 20 symposium.

Capital Improvements



When new and returning students arrived on campus in fall 2011, they were greeted by Eastern's impressive new entrance. **Nancy Tinker**, director of facilities management and planning, said the entrance was designed to coordinate with the building and wayfinding signs seen across campus. The black wrought iron that spans the sidewalks has the same shape and design — with the notch at the top — that the building signs have. There are also hints of the clock tower design in the boundary monument wrought iron.



This past year, Eastern continued its long-standing commitment to energy conservation and sustainability that dates back nearly two decades. Working with **UTC Power**, the University signed a 10-year Energy Services Agreement (ESA) on a fuel cell project, installed on the west side of Eastern's Science Building, that increases energy efficiency and provides clean, reliable and affordable energy to the University. The PureCell system Model 400 is a stationary phosphoric acid fuel cell power plant that is capable of producing 400 kilowatts of continuous electric power while generating usable waste heat.



Connecticut taxpayers will also save \$136,061 annually thanks to a lighting system upgrade at Eastern, one of the first projects to be funded by **Governor Dannel Malloy's** Lead by Example state building energy efficiency program. Under the program, Eastern has installed a control system in the J. Eugene Smith Library that allows building occupants greater flexibility over lighting — including occupancy sensors, remote monitoring of lighting and day-lighting strategies — resulting in a 20 percent reduction in overall electricity usage.

The Future. With state-of-the-art facilities; continued regional and national recognitions; and preparations underway for the next five-year Strategic Plan, Eastern looks forward to 2012-13 and beyond with confidence and anticipation. Eastern faculty, staff and administrators are dedicated to providing an outstanding yet affordable liberal arts education — with an applied component — to prepare our students to lead lives as successful professionals and engaged citizens.

