

# EASTERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY



**ANNUAL  
REPORT  
2010-11**

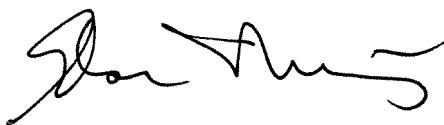
For more than 120 years, Eastern Connecticut State University has been serving the educational needs of Connecticut residents. With close to 90 percent of our graduates staying in Connecticut to become successful professionals and engaged citizens, Eastern's 28,000 alumni are making positive contributions to their communities and the state's economy.

Even as we play a major role in the social and economic fabric of Connecticut, Eastern continues to impact the lives of individual students — one at a time. This year's annual report is full of the personal successes of students, faculty and staff, each with their own unique stories, a campus community sharing core values and a commitment to academic excellence that are a way of life at Eastern.

As we continue to focus on the success of each of our students by providing an exemplary liberal arts education, we have been appreciative of the increasing recognition across the region and our nation of Eastern's academic reputation. In this past year, we have been honored as one of the top 30 Public Regional Universities in the North by U.S. News and World Report; recognized as a "Great College to Work For" by the Chronicle of Higher Education for the third year in a row; and included in the Princeton Review's list of the nation's Green Colleges. These recognitions motivate our faculty, students and staff as they rededicate themselves to making Eastern an outstanding public liberal arts university.

This is the second year that our annual report is being published exclusively online. Not only do we save money by eliminating printing and postage costs, we are also aligning our communications with an increasingly "web-savvy" audience. We hope you like this online version.

If you have further questions about Eastern, please feel free to contact me.



**Elsa M. Núñez**  
President



Photo credit: Aaron Flaum/norwichbulletin.com

## President's Message

**E**astern Connecticut State University made great strides this past year as Connecticut's public liberal arts university. Students, faculty and staff worked together on- and off-campus to elevate Eastern's status as a University of First Choice. Intellectually engaged by a broad-based interdisciplinary liberal arts curriculum, students also found an increasing number of opportunities to apply their skills in practical settings.



## University Recognitions



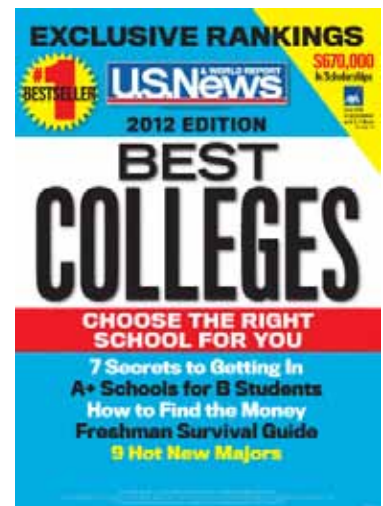
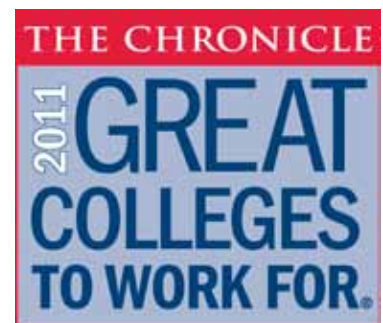
(Above left) President Núñez accepts Robert J. McKenna Award. (Above right) Michael Thomas, CEO/President of the New England Board of Higher Education, congratulates President Elsa Núñez and Russ Tomlin, president of Quinebaug Valley Community College, on receiving the 2011 Robert J. McKenna Award. Connecticut State Senator Donald Williams (far right) joined Thomas in congratulating Eastern and QVCC.

Eastern's efforts to ensure that students from diverse backgrounds attend and complete college have not gone unnoticed. The New England Board of Higher Education (NEBHE) chose the University's Dual Enrollment Initiative as the 2011 recipient of NEBHE's Robert J. McKenna Award for Program Achievement. The McKenna Award was presented at NEBHE's annual awards dinner at the Boston Marriott Long Wharf Hotel in March. The Dual Enrollment Initiative is in its fourth year. Partnering with Hartford Public High School and Quinebaug Valley Community College (QVCC), Eastern co-enrolls a cohort of Hartford Public High School graduates each fall — students who have the determination and potential to succeed, but who had not planned to attend college. The students take nine credits of remedial instruction at QVCC and one course at Eastern

in their first semester while living in Eastern's residence halls and fully participating in campus activities. In fall 2011, the program added students from Manchester High School.

For the third year in a row, Eastern made the list of "Great Colleges to Work For" released by the Chronicle of Higher Education in July 2011. ModernThink LLC, an independent research company, surveyed 310 colleges and universities and more than 44,000 employees at those institutions to develop its findings.

In fall 2010 and again in fall 2011, U.S. News and World Report ranked Eastern in the top 30 Public Regional Universities in the North. Of particular note, Eastern's institutional reputation, as measured by a peer review by presidents and provosts from other colleges, was at an all-time high.



## Student Achievements

### Barnard Scholars? Think Psychology Department!

Psychology majors Michelle Kaczynski '11 of New Milford and Connor Patros '11 of Columbia were two of 12 Connecticut State University System students honored as recipients of the 2011 Henry Barnard Distinguished Student Awards. Kaczynski earned a 3.83 GPA and was on the Dean's List every semester while studying at Eastern. She served as president of Eastern's Honors Program and the campus chapter of the Psi Chi (Psychology) National Honor Society, and participated in an international field experience to northern Sweden as part of the Honors Program International Colloquium. She also had a record of volunteer service on-and off-campus, including as a peer mentor for Eastern's First-Year Program, and as a member of Habitat for Humanity.

Patros graduated with a 3.68 GPA and a 3.91 GPA in his major. Under the tutelage of Psychology Professor James Diller, Patros presented at local, regional and national professional conferences, including the Association for Behavior Analysis International, the Council of Public Liberal Arts Colleges undergraduate research conference, the National Conferences on Undergraduate Research Posters on the Hill event and the CSUS Psychology Day conference. Patros also co-authored two manuscripts for publication; completed two internships; and participated in baseball and track and field at Eastern.





### **Marketing Students Take Home Six Awards from New Orleans**

Sixteen students from the campus chapter of the American Marketing Association (AMA) helped Eastern walk away with six awards at the 33rd Annual International Collegiate Conference held in New Orleans, LA, in March 2011.

The Eastern contingent received a trophy for being one of the top AMA chapters, winning a silver award while competing with more than 300 chapters internationally. Eastern's AMA members also won five awards for participating in multiple competitions at the conference and throughout the academic year.



### **Christina Cammisa Named Harris Fellow at Yale University**

Christina Cammisa '11, majoring in sociology and early childhood education, was granted the prestigious Harris Fellowship in Child Development and Early Childhood Education at Yale University. Cammisa started working and conducting research at Yale's Calvin Hill Day Care Center/ Kitty Lustman-Findling Kindergarten and the Yale Child Study Center in fall 2011.

Cammisa was chosen from a pool of nationwide candidates, including applicants from Duke and Lehigh Universities, to receive the Harris Fellowship. She has studied abroad in Spain and conducted research with Jeffrey Trawick-Smith, Eastern's Phyllis Waite Endowed Chair for Early Childhood Education. In her hometown of Danbury, Cammisa volunteered with the Danbury Youth Wrestling Federation, running wrestling tournaments for elementary, middle and high school students, and served as assistant coach for the Danbury Trojan Pop Warner Association.

## Eastern Documentary Wins Top Honor

A team of Eastern students received the Best Student Documentary Short award at the national Broadcast Educators Association's 2011 Annual Media Festival Awards in Las Vegas in April.

Dan Young '10, Michelle Jarvis '11, Jason Wadecki '11 and Estelle Crews '11 worked on the film, "The Child Left Behind," during their Documentary Production class in fall 2009, with producer Katelyn Forster '10 completing the project during her spring 2010 internship under the supervision of Communication Professor Denise Matthews. Education Professor Maureen Ruby inspired the idea for "The Child Left Behind" after she shared her story with the students.

The documentary tells the story of Putnam, CT, parents of a middle school student with special needs who protested that their child had not been taught to read. This parental advocacy led the Putnam School District to hire Ruby, a reading specialist. Ruby provided training to veteran Putnam middle school teacher Fran Bousquet, with remarkable results.



*Communication Professor Denise Matthews and "The Child Left Behind" producer Katelyn Forster '10.*



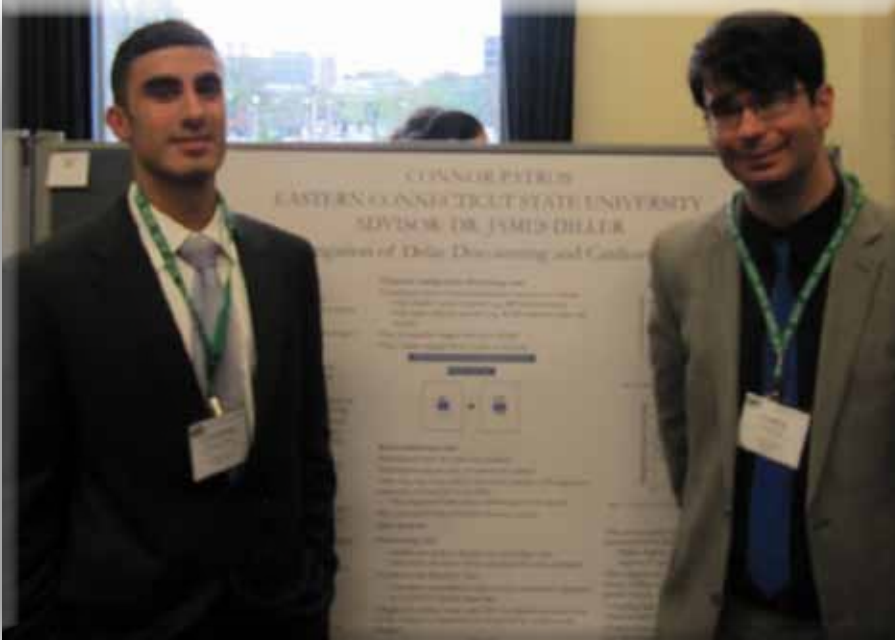
*Eastern students Erin Galipeau, a senior psychology major from Canterbury, CT; Erika Sgambato, a senior from Johnston, RI, majoring in social work; and Robert Brown, a senior psychology major from Burlington, CT, were chosen to present their research at the NCUR's conference held at Ithaca College in March 2011. Psychology Professor James Diller is shown on far right. Diller supervised Galipeau's and Brown's projects, while Business Information Systems Professor Don Petkov supervised Sgambato's project.*

## Math Students Shine at Regional Competition

Mathematics and Computer Science majors Colton Alexander '11, Danny Arsenault '11 and Anthony Pizzoferrato '11 helped Eastern place sixth during the Collegiate Mathematics Contest, sponsored by the Math Association of America and held in Providence, RI, in January 2011. The top two teams received \$150 prizes; all the participants received student licenses for Mathematica. Nineteen teams from colleges from across New England, including Southern Connecticut State University, the University of Connecticut, Brown University and Yale University, participated in the contest. Contestants worked in teams and took a two-hour exam featuring problems in geometry, probability, combinatorics, number theory and other areas of mathematics.

Handwritten mathematical work showing differential equations and their solutions:

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = y \cdot \left( \frac{5 \cdot 2}{2x+1} \right) + y \cdot \left( \frac{6 \cdot 4x}{(x^2-3)} \right)$$
$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{10y}{2x+1} + \frac{24x^3y}{(x^2-3)}$$
$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{10}{(2x+1)} \cdot (2x+1)^5 (x^2-3)^6 + \frac{24x^3}{(x^2-3)} \cdot (2x+1)^5 (x^2-3)^6$$
$$= 10 \cdot (2x+1)^4 (x^2-3)^6 + 24x^3 \cdot (2x+1)^4 (x^2-3)^5$$



## Psychology Student Attends National Conference

Connor Patros '11, a psychology major from Columbia, was one of only 70 students chosen from 700 applicants to present his research poster at the National Council for Undergraduate Research (NCUR) Conference at the Capitol in Washington, D.C., on April 13. The title of Patros's poster was "An Initial Investigation of Delay Discounting and Cardiovascular Reactivity," which he worked on with Psychology Professor James Diller.



## Faculty Successes

### Arroyo Named Connecticut State University Professor

Imna Arroyo, widely respected printmaker, painter, sculptor, installation artist and professor of visual arts, was named a Connecticut State University (CSUS) Professor by the CSU Board of Trustees. To be recognized as a Connecticut State University Professor, a faculty member must first be nominated by a faculty advisory committee, receive the recommendation of the University president and CSUS chancellor, and be approved by the CSU Board of Trustees.

“Professor Arroyo is a tireless advocate for the arts community,” said Eastern President Elsa Núñez. “Based on her exemplary teaching, her artistic accomplishments, and her extensive service to the arts, to Eastern and to her department, Professor Arroyo clearly embodies the professional excellence that the title CSUS Professor represents.”

Arroyo has exhibited her work in Cuba, Mexico, Puerto Rico, the Czech Republic, the Republic of Panama, China and throughout the United States. She has also lectured and conducted workshops in Cuba, Ghana, Canada and China. She has lent her support and talents to a range of arts organizations, from Colectivo Mestizal and the Windham Area Arts Collaborative in Willimantic to the National Women’s Caucus for Art.



*CSUS Professor Imna Arroyo (center) with President Núñez and Rhona Free, vice president of academic affairs.*

### Eastern Collaborates with Hanshan University

Visual Arts faculty members Gail Gelburd’s and Qimin Liu’s travels to China resulted in a return visit in April 2011 by representatives from Hanshan Normal University in Chaozhou, a city in Guangdong Province, China. As a result of the visit, Eastern President Elsa Núñez signed a letter of cooperation with Hanshan Vice President Chen Sanpang. The agreement highlighted the three-day visit to campus. During their stay, the Chinese delegates lectured in Eastern classrooms and took campus tours. The exchange agreement with Eastern adds a U.S. presence to a list of other Hanshan exchange programs with colleges and universities in Kazakhstan, the Republic of Korea, Japan, Malaysia, Australia, Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan.



*Chen Sanpang, vice president of Hanshan University, and President Núñez signed a letter of cooperation in April 2011.*



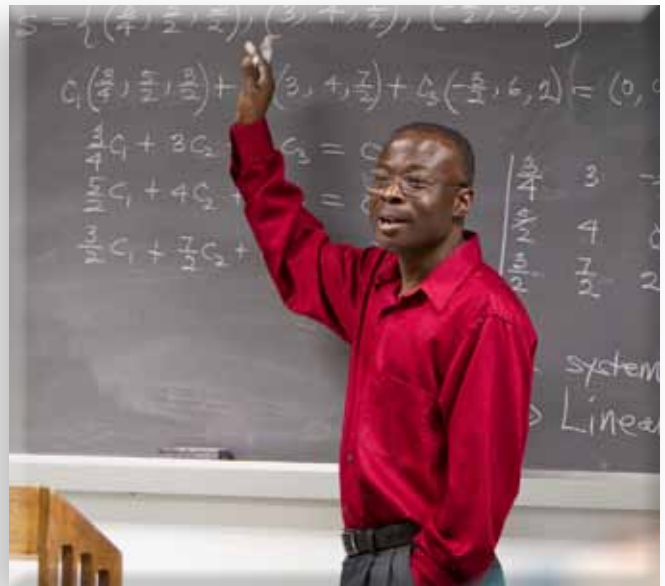
### Chatterton Receives Prestigious Award

Charles Chatterton, associate professor of health and physical education, was awarded the 2010 New England Chapter of the American College of Sports Medicine (NEACSM) Honor Award. Chatterton is well-known for running 41 marathons in 40 months from 2006-09, totaling 1,078 miles through 11 states and the nation's capital. He ran the marathons to raise public awareness of more than 40 million people living in poverty in America.

The NEACSM Honor Award recognizes a professional member who has provided significant contributions to both NEACSM and the field of exercise science. It is the highest honor bestowed by the chapter.

### Anthony Aidoo Makes Top 10 List

Anthony Aidoo, associate professor of mathematics, authored a paper, "Effect of Channel Geometry on the Electrostatic Potential in Acetylcholine Channels," published in "Mathematical Biosciences" in 2003. In 2011, Aidoo's paper was selected as one of the "Top Ten Articles" of all time published in the same domain by BioMedLib.



### Eastern Professor Wins Google Grant

Benjamin Pauley, assistant professor of English, and Brian Geiger, director of the University of California-Riverside's Center for Bibliographical Studies and Research (CBSR), received a \$50,000 grant from Google to provide more precise bibliographical identification of books scanned at sites like Google Books and the Internet Archive. Their proposal was selected to be among the first 12 projects exploring ways to leverage the massive scale of the Google Books archive for new directions in digital humanities research. Google's Internet database contains more than 12 million books in more than 400 languages.



### Trawick-Smith and Student Honored

An article written by Jeffrey Trawick-Smith, Phyllis Waite Endowed Chair of Early Childhood Education at Eastern, and one of his students, Tracy Dziurgot, was selected as Outstanding Research Article in Early Childhood Teacher Education for 2011 by the National Association of Early Childhood Teacher Educators and Taylor and Francis Publishers. The article, "Untangling Teacher-Child Play Interactions: Do Teacher Education and Experience Influence Good-Fit Responses to Children's Play?," reports research findings that indicate that higher levels of education predict preschool teachers' sensitivity to, and understanding of, children's play in classrooms. The recognition brought with it a cash award of \$1,000. Trawick-Smith and Dziurgot were honored in an award ceremony in Orlando, FL, in November 2011.



### Professor Close Named ACE Fellow

In early 2011, History Professor Stacey Close was awarded an American Council on Education (ACE) Fellowship to work with Sonia Manjon, vice president for institutional partnerships and chief diversity officer at Wesleyan University in Middletown. "It's a pleasure to welcome Stacey Close to campus," said Wesleyan President Michael S. Roth. "Wesleyan will surely benefit from the expertise he brings, and I hope he will fulfill his professional goals through his association with us."

Close has taught at Eastern since 1993 and received Eastern's Teaching Excellence Award in 2004. He has served as the director of the Center for Educational Excellence and as chair of the History, Philosophy, Political Science and Geography Department. "Dr. Close has been one of our most popular professors at Eastern for many years," said Eastern President Elsa Núñez, "and I am delighted that he is advancing his professional portfolio as an ACE Fellow at Wesleyan."

An authority on African American history, especially in the Hartford area, Close has published journal articles and book chapters on related topics. Through the ACE program, Close plans to develop a base of knowledge that will contribute to Eastern's advancement. "While I want to work to increase my knowledge in strategic planning, resource allocation, budgeting and management at the senior level, I would also like to learn more about equity, diversity, retention and community engagement," said Close.

# Academics

## Eastern TIMPANI Research Reveals Best Toy for Children

In November 2010, faculty and student researchers at Eastern's Center for Early Childhood Education (CECE) announced the results of a year-long study on the best toy for children. They chose Wooden Vehicles and Traffic Signs, a toy created by Wilton, CT-based Melissa and Doug, LLC, as the 2010 Toy to Inspire Mindful Play and Nurture Imagination (TIMPANI).

The Wooden Vehicles and Traffic Signs toy set includes a variety of painted wooden vehicles, including a fire truck and ambulance. It also includes 10 common traffic signs that children may be familiar with. TIMPANI researchers noted that children playing with the toy engaged in both high levels of language and social interaction. Children also exhibited unexpected creative play, even using the container that the vehicles came in to construct garages and bridges.

“The results of this study should give pause to parents and teachers who believe that children today need high-tech, complex toys in order to learn,” said Jeffrey Trawick-Smith, Eastern's Phyllis Waite Endowed Chair of Early Childhood Education. He is the principal investigator of the TIMPANI toy study, and also engaged Eastern students in the research project. The TIMPANI Toy Study is an annual empirical study that looks at how young children in natural settings play with a variety of toys to examine which toys best promote children's development in three areas: thinking and learning; social interaction and cooperation; and self-expression and imaginative play.



## Chandler Howard Named Business Executive-in-Residence

Chandler Howard, chief executive officer and president of Liberty Bank, served as Eastern's Business Executive-in-Residence for the 2010-11 academic year. Howard visited campus several times during the academic year to share his insights and business experience with students.

Widely considered as one of Connecticut's top banking executives, Howard was chairman and chief executive officer at Fleet Bank-Connecticut in 1996 and held a senior executive position when the bank merged with Bank of America in 2004. A year later, he left the banking industry to become president and CEO of Connecticut Innovations, a quasi-public agency charged with promoting technology growth. Howard became the CEO of First City Fund Corp and was responsible for the development of New Haven's new Community Development Bank before joining Liberty Bank.





### Sustainable Energy Solutions Highlight Symposium

In November 2010, more than 250 students participated in a Sustainable Energy Symposium at Eastern. Students presented their research results using posters, PowerPoint presentations, pamphlets, videos, and, in one case, as a musical performance. Topics ranged from analysis of environ-

mental problems to the use of wind power, energy conservation and renewable energy to reducing consumption of fossil fuels. In addition to the student presentations, Dan Britton from Sunlight Solar presented a lecture about his experiences working in Connecticut's Green Energy industry.

### Jamaican Educators Graduate at Eastern with Bachelor Degrees

Forty-five educators from Jamaica graduated from Eastern in August 2010 with bachelor's degrees in sociology. Regulations implemented by Jamaica's Ministry of Education now require that all Jamaican teachers have a bachelor's degree. The goal of the program is to provide a bachelor's degree completion option to teachers who have gone to teachers college in Jamaica, which is equivalent to a two-year associate's degree in the United States.

The program for Jamaican teachers allowed them to complete courses in Jamaica and on Eastern's campus in Willimantic, receiving their B.A. in sociology upon completing their coursework. The program is offered through Eastern's School of Continuing Education in collaboration with the Hanover Education Foundation in Jamaica.

This was the program's first commencement held at Eastern. Previous Commencement ceremonies were held in Montego Bay. The inspiration for the Jamaica program came from the late Reverend Collin Bennett '81.



## Study Abroad

*As part of their majors and to advance their knowledge and perspectives as global citizens, Eastern students traveled abroad extensively this past year to study, conduct research and serve a broader world community.*

From May 23–June 13, nine Eastern students traveled to Nepal to study the health care system in that country as the focus of their three-credit Comparative Psychology course. Associate Professor of Psychology Carlos Escoto and Geeta Pfau, retired associate director of health services, accompanied the students, as did ITS Trainer Barbara Williams. The group traveled to Kathmandu, Dhulikhel and Pokhara, visiting two hospitals, a free medical clinic, Kathmandu University, an orphanage, two psychiatric facilities and an Ayurvedic clinic.



From May 25–June 5, 20 students majoring in public relations, advertising, television production, journalism and psychology traveled to London and Paris to gain new perspectives on professional media practices, accompanied by Associate Professors of Communication Denise Matthews and Chris Ayeni. The class visited two London advertising agencies — McCann Erickson Advertising Agency and Thing1 Digital Advertising Agency; the World Advertising Research Center; the British Broadcasting Corporation; the British Board of Film Classification, which regulates the United Kingdom's film industry; the London Film Academy; the Guardian newspaper; the London Film Museum and several London movie locations. In Paris, students visited an international film school and the Cinematique film museum.



Students in Art History Professor Anne Dawson's Honors course, "Art in the Italian Landscape," traveled throughout Italy this past summer to study a variety of famous architectural art treasures, including French sculptor Niki di St. Phalle's "Tarot Garden" in Tuscany; the Fountain of the River Gods at the Villa Farnese in Caprarola, Italy; the Park of Monsters in Bomarzo, Italy, a collection of volcanic rock carvings created by architect Pirro Ligorio in the 1500s; Etruscan tombs in Cerveteri; and churches, piazzas and other historical art in Viterbo, Bagnoregio and Florence.

On May 23, 17 Eastern undergraduate and graduate biology students traveled to the Gerace Research Center on San Salvador Island, the outermost island in the Bahamas, for an 11-day study tour of marine and terrestrial environments. San Salvador's flora and fauna include both native and introduced species, making the island a natural laboratory for studying island biogeography. Marine studies focused on coral reef, sea grass bed, mangrove, beach and rocky shore communities.



# Eastern Students Intern in all Corners of the Globe

Eastern students learn valuable skills as they apply their classroom instruction in a variety of paid and for-credit internships at more than 70 locations, including: Animal Planet, CIGNA, The Connecticut Science Center, Disney World, Goodspeed Opera House, IBM, Merrill Lynch, Mystic Aquarium, the Mohegan Sun, Aetna, St. Francis Hospital, NBC-30, Pratt and Whitney, the United Nations, Connecticut State Capitol, United Technologies — and many more.



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1. Psychology and political science major Carline Charmelus '12 interned at Connecticut Legal Services.
2. Business Information Systems major Matthew Thibeault '11 interned at Aetna.
3. Environmental Earth Science majors Kristina Cedrone '12 and Nick Jones '12 have interned at the Institute for Sustainable Energy for the past two years.
4. History major Kenton Webley '10 was hired at Target Corporation after his internship there.
5. Accounting major Fang Cui '10 had a paid co-op at UTC Power.



1.



2.



3.



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4.

1. Business Administration major Elaine Sadler '11 interned at St. Francis Hospital. 2. Political Science major Olivia Puckett '11 interned at the Connecticut State Capitol. 3. Business Administration major Khrystyna Stefak '11 interned at the Connecticut Science Center. 4. Business Administration majors Nathan Briggs '10 and Lauren Hickey '11 interned at Mohegan Sun. 5. Accounting major Michael Milano '11 visits with a special friend during his Disney World internship in fall 2010.



## Student Support

The Academic Services Center in the ground floor of the J. Eugene Smith Library continues to serve students with tutoring, advising and other support. Center staff remind visitors that all students, regardless of their academic perfor-



*Student tutors in the Writing Center and Mathematics Achievement Center provide peer tutoring to fellow students. Almost 3,000 students utilized tutoring and other Academic Services Center services in 2010–11.*



*Veterans Challenge one-mile run*

mance, will find benefit from using the center's services. Professional staff, faculty and peer tutors provide small group and one-on-one tutoring in specific subject areas (i.e., history, psychology), as well as in mathematics and writing. In 2010–11, almost 3,000 students used the center — representing a majority of Eastern students — visiting more than 14,000 times, almost double the number of visits from the previous year.

While the Financial Aid Office continues to provide financial aid to more than 70 percent of all financial aid applicants, the office also coordinates an important outreach event each January. “College Goal Sunday” is an annual event to provide prospective students and their parents with one-on-one advice about financial aid and planning. On Jan. 30, 2011, students and their families were able to talk with Eastern financial aid counselors and other staff to familiarize themselves with college entrance requirements, learn about planning for college, and obtain on-site assistance in filling out financial aid applications, including the online Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Spanish interpreters were also available for the first time.



*Interim Director of Financial Aid Patrick Kelly assists a family during College Goal Sunday.*

In addition to providing academic and financial support, the Division of Student Affairs also serves more than 200 student veterans on campus through the Veteran's Education and Transition Services Center. On Nov. 11, 2010, the campus observed Veteran's Day during a special ceremony in the Student Center, and followed that event with the Second Annual Veteran's Day Challenge. Upwards of 100 students, faculty, staff and area residents participated in the challenge, helping to raise nearly \$2,000 for the Veteran's Scholarship Fund. The challenge consisted of a demanding one-mile run, 100 pull-ups, 200 pushups and 300 air squats, followed by another one-mile run.

# Service to the Community



## Feeding the Community

Eastern provided a Thanksgiving meal to more than 400 area residents during its fourth annual Day of Giving in Hurley Hall on Nov. 24, 2010. People Helping People (PHP), a student club at Eastern, organized the event, and PHP President Amy Gorman '11 led the way. The planning committee received support from local stores, Eastern's Honors Club, the Organization of Latin American Students, Eastern's Center for Community Engagement, the Office of Institutional Advancement and Chartwells Dining Services. Day of Giving food drives were also held in Eastern's residence halls and in local stores such as Better Value, Ted's IGA, Willimantic Co-Op, Windham IGA and Wal-Mart. Eastern student clubs, sports teams and residence halls volunteered to help with the food drives.

## Helping Haiti

In December 2010, students from Eastern and local community members raised more than \$500 during "This Too Shall Pass," Eastern's second Help for Haiti Benefit Concert. Eastern donated \$350 toward building a house in Haiti; the remaining money was donated to the Haitian Health Foundation. An estimated three million people were affected by the earthquake that struck Haiti on Jan. 12, 2010. Eastern's Center for Community Engagement and the Office of Housing and Residential Life sponsored the event. Maiyah Gamble-Rivers, Robert Closs, Brittney Cava and Colin Doherty organized the concert.



*At left, Hurley Hall was full of local residents on Nov. 24, 2010, enjoying a Thanksgiving meal. Above, Biology Professor Elizabeth Cowles volunteers to help out on the food line.*



### Sharing Art with Local Elementary Schools

For two days in December 2010, more than 180 students from Natchaug, Sweeney, Windham Center and North Windham Elementary Schools gathered in the Betty R. Tipton Room to participate in Eastern's first Art and Culture Series designed to expose the schoolchildren to the visual and performing arts. Maiyah Gamble-Rivers, a junior majoring in Art History, organized the event, soliciting support from students, faculty and staff in Eastern's Visual and Performing Arts Departments.

### Eastern Hosts Relay for Life

For the ninth year in a row, Eastern hosted the Windham Area Relay for Life on Oct. 16, 2010. The relay, which benefits the American Cancer Society, took place at the Eastern Sports Complex in Mansfield, bringing together individuals as well as local organizations and businesses, to raise money in support of cancer research, education, advocacy and patient service programs. Over the 14 years of the event in Windham, walkers have



raised almost \$2 million, making the local Relay for Life the highest fundraiser per capita in the country.



### Eastern Students Volunteer at Special Olympics

In March 2011, more than 200 Special Olympians took part in the 32nd Annual Windham Invitational Special Olympics Swim Meet at Windham High School in Willimantic. Since the meet's beginnings in 1979, hundreds of Eastern students have volunteered to staff the event. Each volunteer is paired with one athlete and assists them in registering for events, cheering on their efforts, and involving them in activities while they are not swimming. By volunteering, helpers aid in fostering positive self-esteem, work ethic and friendship with the Special Olympic athletes.



### Eastern Students Give Coventry a Spring Cleaning

On May 2, 2011, the Coventry Town Council issued a proclamation in appreciation of Eastern and its students, who conducted a thorough "spring cleaning" of Coventry on April 9. In all, 200 Eastern students worked on 16 different projects during the day, clearing hiking trails; painting the band shell at Patriots Park; landscaping several other parks; and sprucing up other town facilities, including the Nathan Hale Homestead and two Coventry Historical Society properties.



### Eastern Students Remember the Troops during the Holiday

In December 2010, 15 members of the student club People Helping People, along with school-children from Sweeney Elementary School in Willimantic, showed their support for U.S. troops stationed in Iraq by designing T-shirts with children's hand prints; creating Christmas cards and ornaments; packaging a small Christmas tree; and collecting food and other holiday goodies to send to the troops.



## 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 2010–11, CAB sponsored 152 events ranging from concerts to comedians, coffeehouse shows, weekend programming and sporting events, with a total of 19,760 attendees. Another 198 events were put on by clubs and organizations in the Student Center, with a total attendance of 15,553.

In addition, more than 1,600 students participated in more than 160 intramural teams during the year. The Student Government Association provided leadership and coordination for more than 65 student clubs ranging from the Debate Team to the Rugby Club, involving more than 1,300 students. Of special note — data shows that club participation, like other “engaged learning” activities, improves student academic performance.

In 2010–11, the “Pathways to Leadership” program enjoyed its second year of operations. This three-tiered workshop series provided student leaders with new skills, the opportunity to network with alumni, and a mentoring program in which they are able to mentor other students.



## Campus Culture

### Blake Mycoskie Highlights Arts and Lecture Series

On April 12, 2011, more than 400 students heard Blake Mycoskie, founder of TOMS Shoes, close out Eastern's 2010-11 Arts and Lecture Series in the Betty R. Tipton Room. Mycoskie explained the quick success of TOMS, a company that started in a garage in Argentina and Mycoskie's studio apartment in California and then grew to a company featured in "Vogue" whose products now grace the shelves at Nordstrom's. The company donates a pair of shoes to children in need for each pair it sells. "Giving feels good, but it's also good for business," he said. "I truly believe that responsible business could help solve many of the world's problems today."



### A Campus Rich in Diversity

In January, 2011, Eastern President Elsa Núñez greeted more than 600 enthusiastic area residents as they converged on the Francis J. Geissler Gymnasium to celebrate Three Kings Day, a major holiday in Latin American countries. Gifts are given to children to symbolize the gifts given to Jesus in the New

Testament. Area children received gifts; enjoyed pizza, sandwiches, and beverages; watched a puppet show; and danced to Latino music presented by the band, Arnaldo Rivera and Friends. Nunez told the audience she was very proud to host Three Kings Day at Eastern and thanked the event's organizers for their commitment to keeping the tradition alive.



## Performing Arts Students Practice Their Craft and Entertain the Campus

Performing arts students again entertained the campus community and the community-at-large with a variety of musical and theatrical performances. The vocal expertise of the Eastern Chamber Singers and Concert Chorale were on display for a number of performances, while the Jazz Ensemble, Percussion Ensemble and Concert Band stirred crowds in Shafer Auditorium and elsewhere. The Theatre program produced a number of Phoenix New Plays, several class-specific productions (“Echoes” and “Pleasure Beach”) and thrilled audiences with Mark Twain’s “The Gilded Age” and a musical performance of Stud Terkel’s “Working.”



*Stud Terkel’s “Working”*



*Sheila Pree Bright’s “Omar Rodriguez,” 2006 from her Young Americans Series.*

## Akus Brings World-Class Artists to Campus

The Akus Gallery kicked off its 2010–11 season with “A Candid World: American Visions,” an exhibit of the artists Sheila Pree Bright, Amin Swessi and Dave Cole. Each incorporates imagery of the American flag into their work in a creative, often provocative way to illustrate modern, contemporary American society. The exhibit was part of Eastern’s Year of the Arts celebration. Other Akus Gallery exhibits during 2010–11 included “Solemn and Sublime: Contemporary American Figure Painting,” an exhibit of the work of 13 American painters and artists, including Eastern Art Professor Qimin Liu; “Cur.rent Car.ri.er,” a solo exhibition of Native American artist Courtney Leonard; and Home Grown, a celebration of the Akus Gallery’s 30th anniversary and the work of local Windham/Willimantic artists.

## Celebrating Diversity

*Eastern continued its honored tradition of celebrating diversity through its annual observance of African American Month, Women's History Month and Latin American Awareness Month. During each observance, recognition awards were given to outstanding student and faculty leaders on the Eastern campus and in the local community.*



Eastern President Elsa Núñez (second from left) congratulates 2011 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Distinguished Service Award winners Biology Professor Yaw Nsiah, Carolyn Gamble-Rivers (accepting for her daughter Maiyah Gamble-Rivers '12), and Robert Fernandez, associate director of Quinebaug Valley Community College's Willimantic Center, who were honored on Feb. 23.



Students Christina Vann '12 and Heather Cyr '11, retired Eastern Psychology Professor Ann Marie Orza and community member Diane Tarricone were named recipients of Eastern's 2011 Ella T. Grasso Distinguished Service Awards on March 30. President Núñez (center) joined in congratulating them.

Eastern President Elsa Nunez (second from left), with winners of Eastern's 2011 Latin American Distinguished Service Awards on April 20: William Rivera, Lourdes Montalvo '06 and Michael Pina '13. Rivera is a custodian at Eastern and has rebuilt churches in Central America in addition to his work in Willimantic. Pina received the student award for his activities on and off campus, while Montalvo received the community member award; she currently serves as a commissioner for the Connecticut Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission.





## Winners on the Field and Off

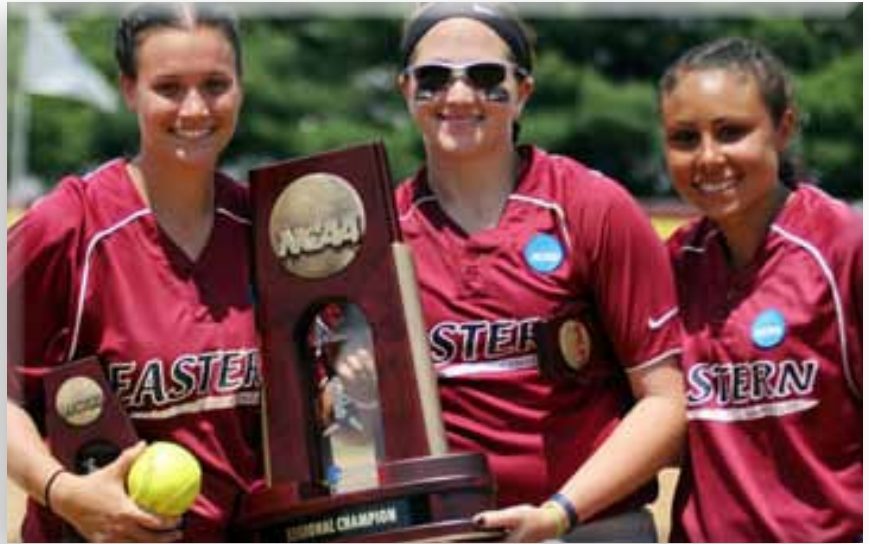
Eastern completed a three-season sweep of this year's academic awards by placing 30 student-athletes on the 2010–11 spring season All-Academic Team. Eastern became the first institution in the four-year tenure of the LEC All-Academic awards program to top all conference institutions in total number of All-Academic achievers in the fall, winter and spring seasons. Eastern totaled 31 selections in the fall and 28 in the winter prior to boasting 30 this past spring for a conference-high yearly yield of 89.

Eastern was awarded the inaugural President's Cup last year, signifying the highest overall GPA among all eight Little East Conference institutions. Eastern had a cumulative GPA of 3.02 during the 2009–10 academic year. Eastern sponsors teams in 17 of the conference's 19 championships.



*National Player of the Year Jim Schult*

Senior baseball tri-captain Jim Schult of Wappingers Falls, NY, was honored as the 2011 ABCA/Rawlings NCAA Division III National Player-of-the-Year. Schult also was a first-team All-America pick. A business administration major, he earned an overall 3.70 GPA. Schult also was inducted into Alpha Mu Alpha (the Marketing Honor Society) and Delta Mu Delta (the Business Honor Society).



*The Warriors placed fifth at the NCAA Division III national softball championships at the James I. Moyer Complex in Salem, VA.*



*Eastern junior right-handed pitcher Molly Rathbun of Hebron became the first player in Eastern history to achieve first-team All-America honors three consecutive seasons.*



*The women's lacrosse team won the Little East Conference regular-season title; the Warriors have won or shared the title each of the past five seasons.*



*The men's basketball team won 20 games for the second straight year and was seeded No. 1 in the ECAC tournament for the second straight year.*



*Jamie Kohn of the men's basketball team was named first-team Academic All-District by the College Sports Information Directors of America.*



*The women's swimming team finished fifth among 21 teams in the New England Swimming and Diving Association Championships, with 28 All-New England performers, and the team was named Scholar All-America by the Collegiate Swimming Coaches Association with an overall GPA of 3.06.*



*Lauren Hickey (second from left) of the women's soccer team and Carl Appel (middle) of the men's soccer team were recognized as Scholar All-Americans by the National Soccer Coaches Association. Hickey was additionally honored as an NSCAA All-America player.*

*The men's soccer team qualified for postseason play for the fourth-straight season under head coach Greg DeVito.*

# The Generosity of Eastern Friends

## Eastern's Friends Bid High for Dual Enrollment Initiative

More than 150 alumni, donors, faculty, staff and other friends of the University converged on the Student Center Café on Dec. 5, 2010, for a brunch and silent auction in support of Eastern's award-winning Dual Enrollment Initiative. The event was sponsored by the ECSU Foundation, Inc.

Auction guests were treated to a sumptuous meal and took time out to bid on more than 130 auction items that ranged from artwork donated by faculty members to vacation packages, electronics, fine wines and more. In all, the event raised more than \$22,000 in support of the special program for inner-city Hartford and Manchester students.

"I greatly appreciate the generosity of our donors in supporting this important initiative to expand educational access," said Eastern President Elsa Núñez. "The funds raised will help us meet the educational aspirations of students who, up until now, have had no hope of attending college."

Lead sponsors for the auction included the Savings Institute Bank and Trust; NewAlliance Bank; and Quinebaug Valley Community College. Patron sponsors included Chartwells; Tim Coppage; Eljen Corporation; Farmington Bank; Luva Mead Hoar '42; Manafort Brothers, Inc.; Mary Mattke; Natchaug Hospital; The S/L/A/M Collaborative; and Lorraine and Michael J. Scanlon '75.

Mattke, a member of the ECSU Foundation, Inc.'s Board of Directors and chair of the auction committee, thanked those in attendance for their "spirit of giving and compassion." She also thanked Núñez for her "vision and for following through on that vision."

## Donors continue to support student scholarships

Eastern's friends continued to provide financial support for student scholarships and University programs in 2010–11. Through the generosity of more than 3,000 donors, a record 303 students were named recipients of \$334,000 in scholarship money during the ECSU Foundation, Inc.'s Annual Scholarship Reception on April 28. More than 200 people attended the reception, including a number of key scholarship donors.





*Honorees at the Oct. 22, 2010, President's Leadership Luncheon included Col. Debra Skelton '81, Bert Nussbaum '63, Anthony Brandenburg '75, Dorothy (Nye) Carlyle '56, Cameron Carlyle, Mark Masinda and Madeline Bernstein.*

### **Alumni and Donors Recognized**

Eastern recognized several distinguished donors and alumni at the annual President's Leadership Luncheon on Oct. 22, 2010, in the Paul E. Johnson Sr. Community Conference Room. Long-time supporters Cameron and Dorothy (Nye) Carlyle '56 and Madeline Bernstein were presented with ECSU Foundation Distinguished Donor Awards. The Carlyles have established the Dorothy N. Carlyle Scholarship Fund as well as a Charitable Remainder Uni-trust in support of Eastern and its students. Bernstein, whose son John DelMonte Jr. '73 died in 1991, donated John's music collection in 1993 and also established the John J. DelMonte Jr. '73 Endowed Scholarship in 1997. She is also a member of the President's Legacy Society.

Anthony Brandenburg '75 and retired Air Force Col. Debra Skelton '81 each received Distinguished Alumni Awards. Brandenburg is an expert in Native American law and serves as the Chief Judge of the Intertribal Court of Southern California. Skelton entered the U.S. Air Force as a second lieutenant shortly after graduating from Eastern in May 1981 and had an impressive 27-year career.

Bert Nussbaum '63 received the Distinguished Service Award. In addition to being a long-time contributor to the ECSU Foundation and a member of the President's Legacy Society, Nussbaum is a member of the Alumni Association Board of Directors.

The Hermann Beckert "Friends of the University" Award was given to Mark Masinda, building maintenance supervisor at Eastern for more than 25 years.

## Constance Belton-Green Scholarship Fund

Eastern has established a scholarship fund to honor Constance Belton-Green, who served 11 years as the University's chief diversity officer before retiring in September 2010. The fund is designed to help students who show academic promise and financial need. Preferred recipients will be from urban communities in Connecticut who demonstrate a commitment to diversity and inclusion.

At a reception at the Hartford Club on Sept. 30, 2010, Eastern President Elsa Núñez praised Green's commitment to social justice. "Dr. Green has ably served the University community for the past 11 years as a staunch supporter of fairness and equity for students, faculty and staff, promoting respect and greater understanding among our University's diverse populations," said Núñez.

Green was the first African American woman to graduate from the University of Connecticut Law School in 1972. She completed her doctorate in education in 2003 from Teachers College, Columbia University. Green practiced law in private practice in New Haven and Bloomfield, primarily in the area of public interest law and was one of the founding incorporators of the Connecticut Women Education and Legal Fund (CWEALF).



*Connie Green (right) with Nancy Wyman, comptroller for the State of Connecticut, who presented Green with a special pen and ink drawing of the State Capitol building on Sept. 30, 2010.*



## Class of 2011 Gives a High 5 to Eastern

The Class of 2011 Senior Gift drive was a wonderful success, with nearly 200 seniors giving a "High 5" to Eastern last spring. The High 4 program, initiated in 2009, is designed to make giving to Eastern affordable for young alumni. Under the program, seniors are encouraged to make a five-year pledge, starting with a \$5 gift in their senior year and increasing by \$5 increments in subsequent years, ending with a \$25 gift in year five. All donations support a class scholarship.

"The High 5 program is a perfect fit for senior class giving as it enables classes to build their own class legacy while carrying on an Eastern tradition—alumni giving back to their alma mater on a consistent basis," said Kenneth DeLisa, vice president for institutional advancement.



*Ryan Rose, Bill Johnson, Paul Little and Dan Rys constituted the Savings Institute Bank and Trust team.*

### Fore!

The annual ECSU Foundation, Inc. Golf Tournament to benefit the Athletics Department was held under sunny skies on June 20, 2011, at Lake of Isles in North Stonington. The tournament generated nearly \$75,000 with a full field of 144 alumni, staff and friends in attendance. Since moving to Lake of Isles in 2006, the tournament has grossed a half-million dollars.

Chartwells once 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 grateful for the significant support we continue to receive from our lead sponsors as well as those businesses that send a foursome every June,” said Kenneth DeLisa, vice president for institutional advancement. “We are fortunate to have so many loyal friends of the University.”

## Alumni are Active Members of the Eastern Community



*Eastern Fellows Rob Nieto '96, Carol Pandiscia '89 and Paul Provost '97 visit with President Núñez.*

### Distinguished Alumni Return to Campus

On March 30, 2011, Eastern inducted its third class of Alumni Fellows, a group selected from the field of media and communication. Inductees included Paul Provost '97, president and publisher of The (Norwich) Bulletin; Carol Pandiscia '89, senior vice president for technology program management and business planning at ESPN; and Rob Nieto '96, senior open producer for the nightly CBS-TV show, "Inside Edition with Deborah Norville."

"Colleges and universities ultimately are defined by the success of their graduates," said Eastern President Elsa Núñez. "For a liberal arts institution, it is especially important to showcase the rich diversity of career success that our graduates achieve. Each of the three new inductees into the Eastern Fellows program — Carol Pandiscia, Rob Nieto and Paul Provost — demonstrates the transformational impact of an Eastern degree. As a group, they bring great honor and pride to our University for what they have done in their careers."

All three Fellows credited Eastern with success in their careers during a session with students in the Paul E. Johnson Sr. Community Room. "Two words will ensure a successful future for you," said Provost. "Work ethic. You only get out of life what you put into it. Find something that excites you; something for which you have passion, and bring a solid work ethic to it." Nieto encouraged students to make the most of internships. "When I first began working, I could always reach back to something I learned at Eastern because John Zatowski had me doing so many different things in the radio station." Pandiscia also encouraged students to immerse themselves once they find a job. "I became a sponge when I first started at ESPN 21 years ago. I soaked up everything and became a generalist, something I learned from my liberal arts education at Eastern. I ran tapes; worked nights and weekends, you name it, I did it."



**Eastern Alumni Help Eastern  
Celebrate Commencement Week**

Eastern’s annual Commencement and Reunion Weekend kicked off on May 20, 2011 with the “Bash for the Past” young alumni reunion, which was attended by members of the classes of 2001 through 2010. On May 21, alumni and guests from the five-year Classes of 1941 through 1986 returned to campus for their respective

reunions, sharing memories and marveling at the changes that have occurred at the University. Reunion attendees were treated to tours of the campus and a luncheon reception hosted by President Elsa Núñez. The Class of 1961 was also honored upon reaching the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its commencement. Later in the day, alumni joined graduating seniors and their families, alumni, faculty and staff for the annual “Eastern Celebrates Big Tent Barbeque.”



*The 121<sup>st</sup> Commencement was held at the XL Center in Hartford on May 22, 2011, with Governor Dannel Malloy serving as the Commencement Speaker. In all, 1,077 undergraduates and 102 graduate students earned degrees.*





## Capital Improvements

*In the past year, several construction projects have been completed or initiated, helping to continue to make Eastern's public liberal arts campus a source of pride for students, faculty and staff.*

A new campus entrance on High Street provides a fitting "front door" to Eastern, with the full name of the University visible from both directions, and abundant landscaping designed to blend the new entrance in with the campus proper.

After playing without a home field for two years (yet still finishing third and fifth in the country at the national tournament), the women's softball team will open its new softball field at the Mansfield Sports Complex in spring 2012.

Sometime in 2013, the Alumni Association will be able to host events at its new home, the Mazzocca House at 333 Prospect Street.

Finally, the Visual Arts and Performing Arts Departments look forward with anticipation as the design phase of the Fine Arts Instructional Center nears completion; it is hoped that bond funds to construct the state-of-the-art facility will be available next year.



*Onward!* With a new entrance to the campus; continued regional and national recognitions; and preparations underway for the next five-year Strategic Plan, Eastern looks forward to 2012 and beyond with confidence and anticipation. The dedication of faculty, staff and administrators to providing an exemplary liberal arts education with an experiential component for its students continues to be the focus of Connecticut's public liberal arts university.

