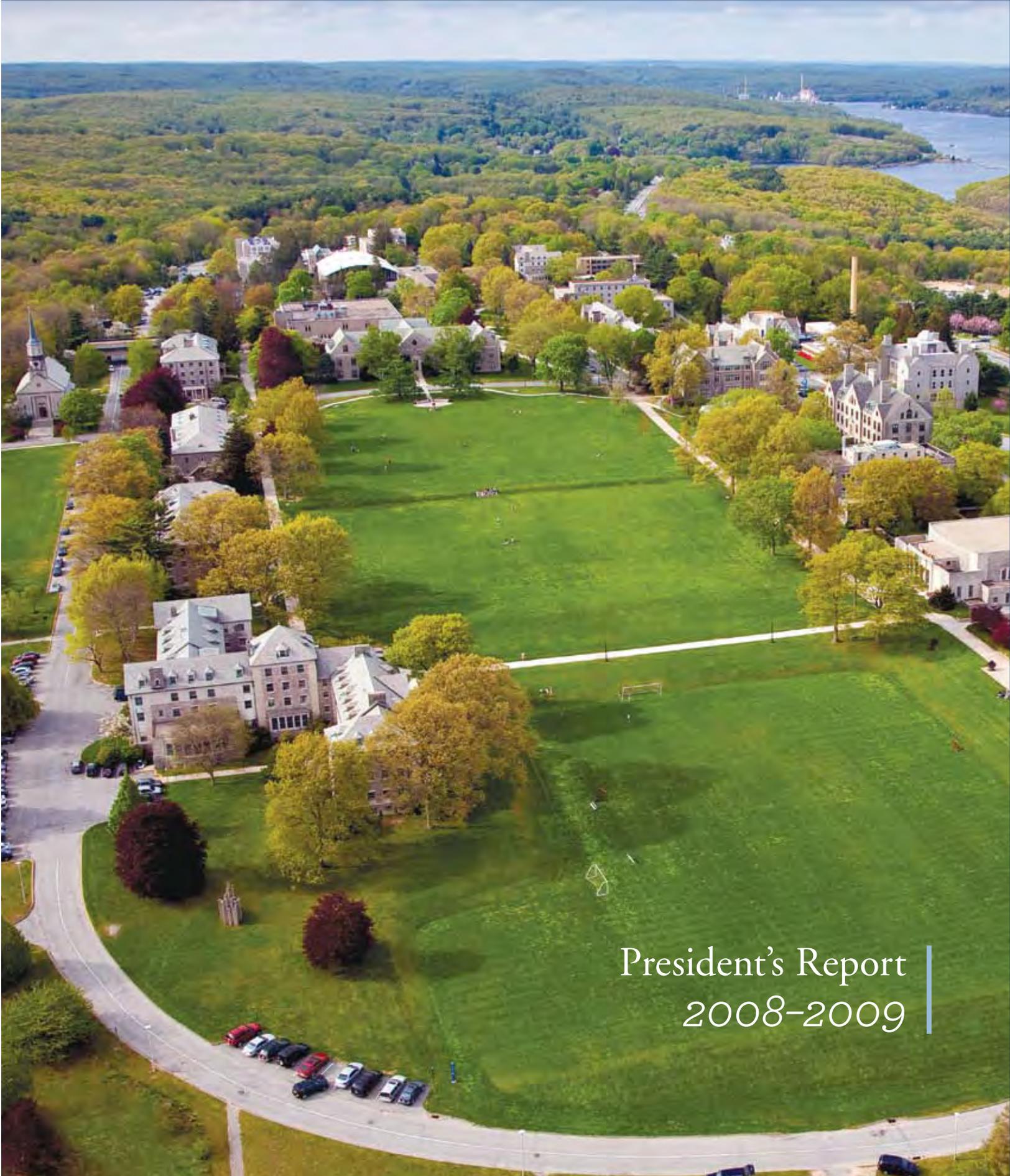


# CONNECTICUT COLLEGE



President's Report  
2008-2009

## Dear Friends,

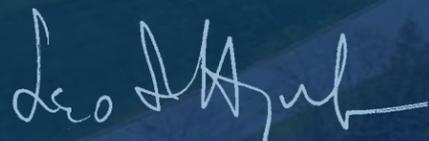
This has been a significant year in the life of Connecticut College, as evidenced by our bold steps forward to support new initiatives, renew our beautiful campus and continue to build our reputation as one of the finest liberal arts colleges in the land. Against the backdrop of a major economic downturn, we launched the public phase of a \$200 million fundraising campaign that will help support strategic investments in the educational experience. The campaign currently stands at \$121 million.

We came into this economic downturn in strong financial shape. Changes the College made nearly 10 years ago have positioned us well to navigate through today's challenges. We haven't had to take the same actions some other colleges have taken, and we are making every effort to manage with exceptional care and prudence. At the same time we are continuing with investments that advance this College and enhance the experience for students.

This education matters. Our extraordinary alumni are affecting the world in meaningful ways. Our students are benefiting from an education that will prepare them for challenges we can't even name yet. Together as a community – with the dedication and support of our faculty, staff and trustees – we clearly understand and embrace the value of a liberal arts education in today's society.

As president of this great college, I am extremely pleased to share our successes with you. As we look ahead to our second century, I welcome the opportunity to work with you to further advance Connecticut College.

Sincerely,



Lee Higdon



President Lee Higdon talks with students in the Katharine Blunt Common Room.

## AUGUST 2008



Michelle R. Dunlap, professor of human development, honored with Ernest J. Lynton Award for the Scholarship of Engagement.

College completes \$11 million in summer renovations.

Faculty members publish 30 books during academic year.



## SEPTEMBER 2008

Construction begins on new state-of-the-art fitness center, completely funded with gifts.

College welcomes Cokie Roberts, broadcast journalist and author.



## OCTOBER 2008

President Lee Higdon launches public phase of \$200 million fundraising campaign.

College receives \$3 million gift from Jean C. Tempel '65 to support science education.

College receives \$500,000 Andrew W. Mellon Foundation grant to participate in Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship program.

President Lee Higdon publishes leadership essay in *The Presidency*.

## NOVEMBER 2008

Connecticut College boosts local transportation options with Zipcars and increased Camel Van shuttle service.

13 seniors are named Winthrop Scholars, Connecticut College's highest academic honor.

Connecticut College recognized as a top producer of Fulbrights.

Susana Hancock '07 is a finalist for the Rhodes Scholarship.

President Lee Higdon publishes opinion piece in *The Providence Journal* about the importance of international experiences for college students.



## DECEMBER 2008

College announces Residential Education Fellows program that will increase faculty-student contact outside the classroom.

Connecticut College receives \$1 million anonymous gift to advance internationalization.



## JANUARY 2009

Connecticut College Children's Program receives \$500,000 grant to support its inclusive pre-school program.

Heather Day '09, Associate Professor of Human Development Sunil Bhatia and Vice President for Administration Ulysses Hammond receive Martin Luther King Jr. Service Award.



# A Year of Achievement | 2008-2009

## FEBRUARY 2009

Connecticut College named to 2009 President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll, with Distinction.

Deborah Dearborn '67 designates nearly \$1 million charitable trust to fund endowed scholarship.

President Higdon publishes op-ed in *The Day* encouraging support of higher education during recession.

Athletic Hall of Fame inducts Caroline Davis '99, Livingston Johnson '79 (both pictured), Dan Gallagher '81 and Joan Fluegelman Wexler '53.

120 students attend Power Shift, national climate and energy conference.



Alex Samma '10 wins national triple jump championship.

College places first among NESCAC schools in Recyclemania competition.

Connecticut College receives the 2009 Senator Paul Simon Award for Campus Internationalization.

## APRIL 2009

College's Goodwin-Niering Center hosts national conference, Water Scarcity and Conflict.

Laura Frawley '10 is named a 2009 Goldwater Scholar. Andrew Margenot '10 receives Goldwater honorable mention.

Connecticut College expands SAT-optional policy to include all standardized tests.

College community gathers to celebrate the life and art of the late Charles Chu, professor emeritus of Chinese.

Abigail Van Slyck, Dayton Professor of Art History, wins Alice Davis Hitchcock Book Award.

Nancy Wallace '09 awarded Harris Fellowship in Child Development and Early Childhood Education.

The Kathryn Wasserman Davis 100 Projects for Peace program announces it will fund two Connecticut College student projects, Phuong Le '10 and Susan Taylor '09.



## MAY 2009

Gov. M. Jodi Rell recognizes Connecticut College as Climate Change Leader.

Connecticut College has four Fulbright Award winners.

Abigail Van Slyck, Dayton Professor of Art History, receives Nancy Batson Nisbet Rash Faculty Research Award. Catherine McNicol Stock, professor of history, receives John S. King Memorial Teaching Award. Joan C. Chrisler, Class of 1943 Professor of Psychology, receives Helen Brooks Regan Faculty Leadership Award.

James Berrien '74 named Chair of Board of Trustees.

Record number of alumni return for reunion.

Camel Athletics finish year with national NCAA Champion, nine All-Americans, 93 students on NESCAC All-Academic Team and four teams that ranked among nation's top 20.

President Lee Higdon publishes op-ed in *The Bergen Record* giving job search advice to college graduates.

## JUNE 2009

More than 8,400 alumni, parents and friends give \$4.5 million through the Annual Fund.

Dean of Admission and Financial Aid Martha C. Merrill '84 is featured in *The New York Times* education blog.

Annual Fund's Senior Giving Program reaches 97% participation, highest ever.

College receives \$1 million anonymous gift to support science education.

College receives \$4.8 million in grants to support institutional priorities and faculty research, up 17% from 2008.



## JULY 2009

College prepares for a series of events to celebrate fitness center opening.





THE CAMPAIGN FOR  
Connecticut College

## CAMPAIGN UPDATE

The College launched the public phase of its \$200 million campaign in October by announcing it had already exceeded \$100 million. In 2008-2009, more than \$16 million in new gifts and commitments was raised, despite the recession, bringing the total to \$121 million. In May, Barbara Kohn '72, former Board Chair, was named Campaign Chair.

The Campaign for Connecticut College will provide funding for expanded residential education initiatives, further internationalization of the student experience, increased financial aid and enhanced science programs.

### Other campaign milestones:

- South tennis courts renovated
- Silfen Auditorium dedicated
- Opatrny Family Plaza dedicated
- Johnson House dedicated
- Johnson/Hamilton Bench commemorates Plex renovation
- Fitness Center completed
- Classes of '54, '59, '64, '84 and '94 raise \$1 million for scholarships
- Reunion giving increased over prior year
- Parents Fund at highest ever

## CONNECTICUT COLLEGE

Office of the President  
270 Mohegan Avenue  
New London, CT 06320-4196  
860-439-2666  
lhigdon@conncoll.edu  
www.connecticutcollege.edu

# The Enduring Value of a Connecticut College Education

## LIBERAL ARTS EDUCATION

is the best preparation for life and career. Time and again, research data show liberal arts graduates achieve at exceptionally high levels. Recent surveys indicate employers consider liberal arts education outcomes to be what employees need to be successful in professional life today.

Our students develop critical thinking skills, a broad view of the world and the invaluable experience of citizenship in a small community. Connecticut College graduates are prepared for personal and professional success in any arena, and every day our alumni across the country and in communities around the world demonstrate in their own lives the importance of this education.

We take this responsibility very seriously and continue to invest in our vision of even greater academic excellence and recognition. Our students continue to benefit from the legacy of those who came before, those who pioneered Connecticut College's leadership in internationalization, in interdisciplinary studies, in community service and, most important, in academic excellence.

Our commitment to providing the very best in liberal arts education is grounded in the principles that have always been at the core of a Connecticut College education. For nearly a century, our success as an institution has been built on these principles. As we continue to transform Connecticut College, they will be just as vital to our future.

**Great teaching is central to the educational experience.** Our faculty are among the best in the world. They promote and advance student learning by providing opportunities for meaningful hands-on research, personal attention and mentoring. They infuse learning relationships with a spirit of innovation that continues to inspire students well beyond graduation.

At Connecticut College, faculty promote academic excellence and significant student achievement.

**Individualized education transforms lives.** Connecticut College students know they will be closely guided and mentored as they assess their own abilities and interests and incorporate them into a program of study. With an array of learning options, students confront intellectual challenges and often find life-long passions.

**The residential campus is an education in citizenship.** As campus residents, Connecticut College students are engaged in extracurricular activities, leadership roles, artistic endeavors, spirited athletics and dedicated service to others. With mutual respect and care for others, they take responsibility for conflict resolution and policy and program planning and change. This dynamic community is informed by values of intellectual discourse, participatory decision-making and affirmation of the educational value of diversity, and it prepares students for full participation as global citizens.

**Alumni outcomes show Connecticut College prepares students exceptionally well** for life, work and citizenship. As individuals and as a community, our alumni have excelled in fields from medicine to the media, from law and government to international relations, from the arts to the boardroom and beyond. One measure of our success is that within a year of graduation, about 75 percent of alumni are working full time. The rest are enrolled in graduate or professional school, either full time or part time. Within 15 years of graduation, more than half of alumni have earned an additional degree such as a Ph.D., medical degree, law degree, master's degree or M.B.A.

[ Learn more: [www.connecticutcollege.edu](http://www.connecticutcollege.edu) ]