



*UConn Nation Gives*

FY 2015 Annual Report

**UCONN**  
FOUNDATION







## Greetings, UConn Nation!

**W**elcome to the fiscal 2015 annual report. These numbers tell a story. The student whose life was transformed by a scholarship, the patient who received a free mammogram at UConn Health, and the US veteran who took advantage of job training programs offered by the School of Business. They all benefited from philanthropy.

Thanks to generous donors, the UConn Foundation completed one of the most successful fundraising years in its history. Gifts from UConn Nation not only help support students, teaching, research, and patients, they're also fueling UConn's rise as one of the nation's best public universities.

We are proud of our role. Accountability is at the core of our success. Every year, an independent accounting firm audits the financial statements to ensure the veracity of the Foundation's accounting and internal controls. The audited statements in this report were prepared by PricewaterhouseCoopers, and provided to UConn, the state's Office of the Auditors of Public Accounts, and the Office of the Attorney General. Those documents, as well as the Foundation's policies and the Donor Bill of Rights, are available on our website.

Thank you for your continued support!

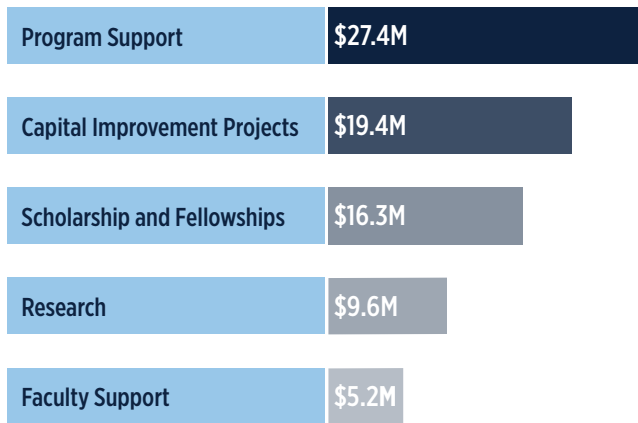
# 2015 UConn Nation Gives

Fiscal 2015 (July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015)

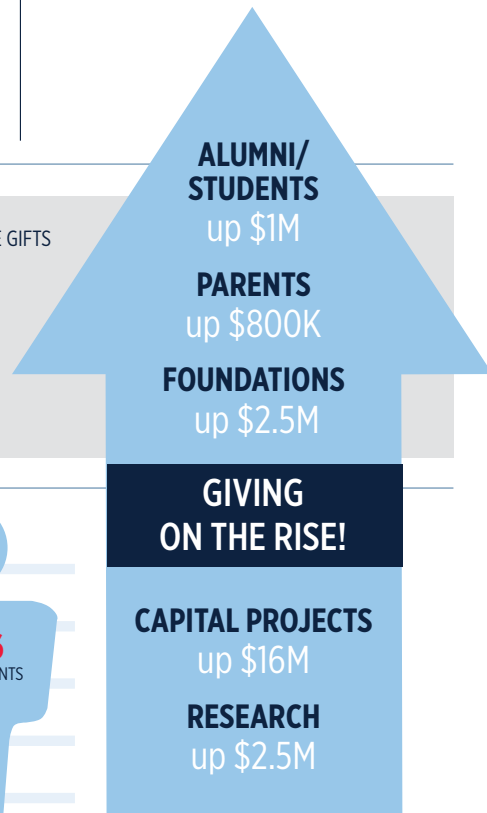
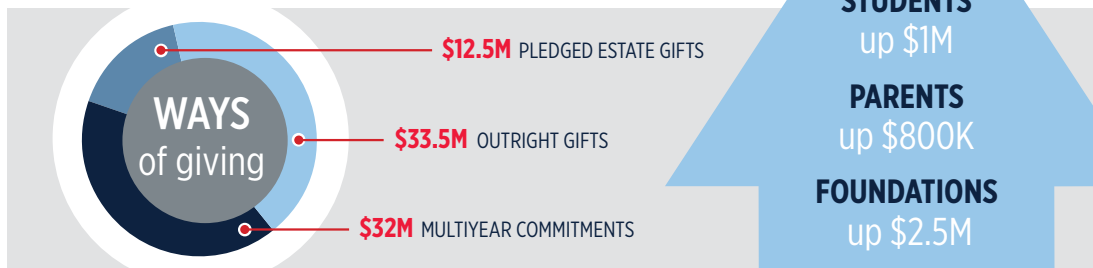
Alumni giving matters! Every gift from an alumnus boosts UConn's national rankings.

## TRANSFORM LIVES SCHOLARSHIP INITIATIVE

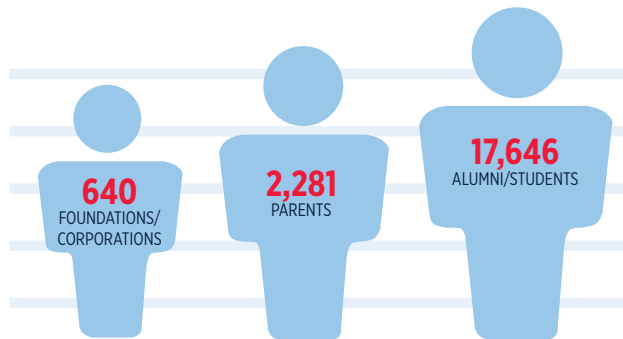
TOTAL \$38.1M 2015 \$16.3M



**\$78M**  
raised in 2015



## DONORS



***A Message from  
Coleman B. Levy '61 '62 '66  
and Joshua R. Newton***



**UConn Nation  
Gives Back**

**T**hank you to the UConn community for ardently supporting our great university. We are pleased to report that our donors gave at the second highest rate in the history of the UConn Foundation, raising \$78 million. It's no surprise that private giving is on the rise while faculty are breaking ground in basic and scientific research across disciplines; academic and extramural opportunities for students are growing; and UConn Health is redefining the state of the art in personalized patient care. Through the integration of the Alumni Association with the UConn Foundation, the University has opened its arms to embrace all members of the UConn Nation, which will lead to continued growth in alumni engagement in the life of the University. We are honored to work alongside fellow donors every day to see their passions fulfilled for the betterment of our state's most important resource. Thank you!

Two handwritten signatures in black ink. The first signature is 'Coleman B. Levy' and the second is 'Joshua R. Newton'.

“We have been giving to UConn for 39 years because there's no better investment. My wife and I started a cancer research fund in memory of our beloved son. We support scholarships because a UConn education has the power to transform lives. As huge Huskies fans and believers in the spirit of community that sports engenders, we are longtime donors to the Division of Athletics. We give back so that this great University keeps providing for future generations.”

**Coleman B. Levy '61 '62 '66**  
Chair, UConn Foundation Board of Directors

“I know firsthand the transformative power of student support. I was a first-generation college graduate thanks to the generosity of those who came before me and gave back. It is with intense gratitude that I continue to pay it forward. One of the most important doors that higher education can open is the opportunity to broaden a student's understanding of the world through study abroad. My donations help UConn students explore other countries, experience new cultures, and gain enlightenment that they will carry the rest of their lives.”

**Joshua R. Newton**  
President and CEO  
UConn Foundation



## *A Message from Susan Herbst*

# Thanks and Praise

“I choose scholarships as my way of giving back. My husband and I support the Susan Herbst and Douglas Hughes Family Scholarship in the Humanities because we know firsthand the power of giving. A scholarship can make all the difference in the life of a talented student with financial need. It is our privilege to support the next generation of humanities scholars on their path toward becoming knowledgeable and enlightened contributors to society.”

**W**e owe our deepest thanks to the tens of thousands of alumni, friends, corporations, and foundations who gave so generously to UConn this year. They are helping to ensure we remain one of the top public research universities in the nation, and helping us to climb ever higher. We are also incredibly grateful to Governor Dannel Malloy and the General Assembly for their support as we seek to maintain our forward momentum. When a donor supports UConn—through donations, volunteerism, advocacy, or advisement—they are truly making a difference in the life of our shared University. And so on behalf of the entire UConn community: Thank you for your friendship, investment, and most of all, for your belief in the University of Connecticut and its mission. Together, we are building the future.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Susan Herbst'.

**Susan Herbst**  
President, University of Connecticut







# TRANSFORM LIVES

\$38.1 MILLION RAISED

## Transforming Lives through Scholarship

**H**undreds of alumni and other donors have been inspired to support students through the Transform Lives initiative. The goal of Transform Lives, which was launched in 2015, is to raise \$150 million in scholarships and fellowships. Scholarships make a UConn education possible for students like Justis Lopez '14 '15, the first in his family to graduate from college. In May 2015, Lopez's family returned to Storrs to watch him earn his second degree—an MA in education.

In five years at UConn, Lopez mentored other first-generation college students, advised peer mentors, worked with the dean's office at the Neag School of Education on an initiative to improve diversity in teaching, volunteered for an alternative spring break helping disadvantaged neighborhoods in Atlanta, and entertained crowds as Jonathan the Husky.

Thanks to gifts and endowments established by donors, the UConn Foundation was able to disburse \$10.9 million in scholarships to the University for students, including Lopez, in fiscal 2015. Lopez himself began paying it forward his sophomore year with annual gifts to support scholarships and programs for incoming freshmen.



"I hope to establish future fellowships and scholarships for students who are interested in going into the field of education."

**Justis Lopez '14 '15**  
Student and Donor



"I can't begin to describe how deeply the scholarship has affected me and how much I truly appreciate it."

**Halle Gavrielidis '17**  
School of Business  
Barton Family Business  
Scholarship



## Philanthropy Brings UConn Closer to All-Steinway Goal

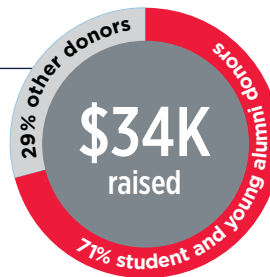
**A** dozen Steinway pianos were delivered in 2015, fulfilling a gift made in 2012 by the Lawrence J. Portell and Natalie D. Portell Foundation. “It means students will have access to quality instruments to practice their craft. It’s one of the most important resources that a music institution can have,” said Eric Rice, head of the Music Department in the School of Fine Arts. The pianos will nearly double the number of Steinway instruments at UConn, and is a significant step toward becoming an all-Steinway institution, a distinction held by 175 conservatories, colleges, and universities worldwide.

## UConn Students Crowdfund for a Cause



**H**uskyDrive’s Ignite crowdfunding campaign—recognized as one of the best in the country by Evertrue, an organization that applies social media analytics to nonprofit fundraising—brings students together to raise money for their favorite UConn causes.

### Student Crowdfunding Since 2013



#### SPECIAL THANKS

to members of the Board of Directors for giving an additional \$20K in matching gifts!

- George R. Aylward '88
- Alan Bennett '69
- Patrick M. Campion '83
- Jonathan Greenblatt '77
- Adam L. Schwartz '97
- Daniel Toscano '87
- Connie Weaver



# Scholarship is Largest Gift Ever to Dental School

**“I** want to pay it forward,” said Kathleen Burr, DMD ’85, an orthodontist. Dr. Burr and her spouse, Robin Malkasian, will pay it forward to students who follow in Dr. Burr’s footsteps at the UConn School of Dental Medicine. Upon Dr. Burr’s retirement from private practice this year, the couple pledged an estimated \$2 million estate gift—the largest gift ever committed to the School of Dental Medicine.

“Hopefully when the gift is made, it will be even more,” said Dr. Burr. “We chose UConn because it’s one of the best in the country.”

Dr. Burr wants her gift to be used to attract promising students regardless of their financial means. The cost of dental school plus specialty programs discourages some highly qualified students from pursuing their aspirations. Alumni gifts can make a difference.

Philanthropy is the key to realizing dreams because it reduces student loan debt, which not only lowers the cost of education but also opens more doors after graduation. Dr. Burr explains, “Young graduates with high debt loads have to make decisions based on their debt. When you think about their debt load, they really are limited. It affects their ability to go into a specialty program, the model of practice they choose and the community they serve.”

Dr. Burr wants UConn students to have the same opportunities she had to achieve personal and professional success. “I was fortunate to have been a part of the best profession imaginable. I enjoyed going to work every day,” she said.



“I came from a lower middle class household, and I was able to access an excellent dental education at UConn and specialty training at Harvard because I received student support.”

**Kathleen Burr, DMD ’85**  
Donor



**\$8.8M**  
raised for  
**UConn  
HEALTH**



**GIVING TO  
SCHOOLS  
BOLSTERED BY  
ALUMNI SUPPORT  
TOP 5 FOR  
FUNDRAISING**

**SCHOOL OF MEDICINE**

**\$6.5 MILLION**

**SCHOOL OF BUSINESS**

**\$5.6 MILLION**

**COLLEGE OF LIBERAL  
ARTS AND SCIENCES**

**\$5.4 MILLION**

**SCHOOL OF LAW**

**\$4.9 MILLION**

**SCHOOL OF  
ENGINEERING**

**\$3.8 MILLION**

## Alumnus Scholarship to Help Future Business, Political Science Leaders

**R**ichard Minoff '75, a successful pharmaceutical executive, made a planned gift to create scholarships for students majoring in political science or business.

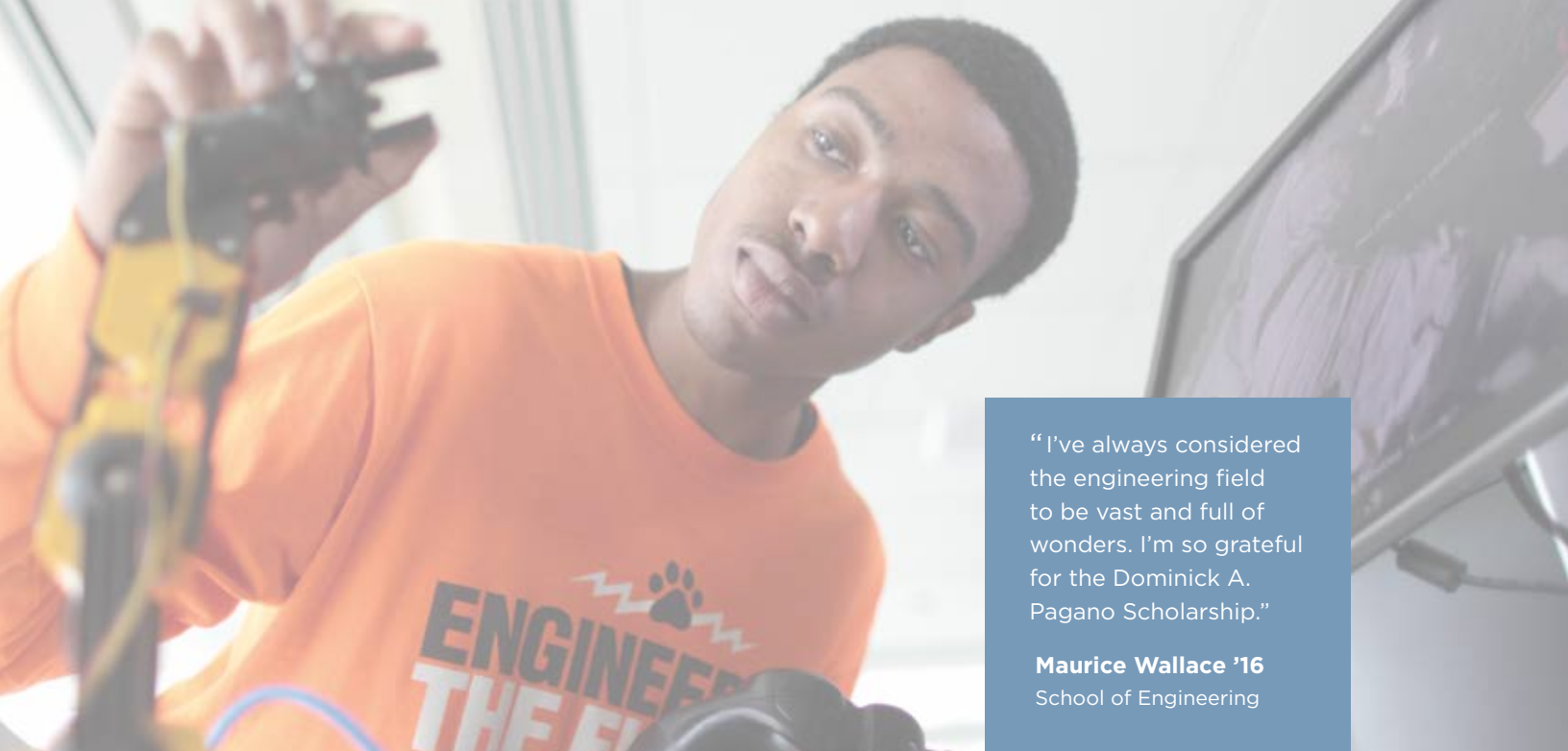
"I do believe strongly in a liberal arts education," Minoff said. "I believe one of the reasons I've been able to do so well globally is my knowledge of art, of philosophy, of history and politics, and even astronomy. Really, it's being well-rounded and being taught to think critically, to think broadly—that was originally nurtured at UConn. I'm fortunate if I can help other people move forward to develop their skills in these areas."

Minoff rose rapidly through the management ranks at GlaxoSmithKline, and then Wyeth Pharmaceutical as director of marketing. After more than a dozen years as a pharmaceutical executive, he moved into the global health care communications and advertising industry. He has launched more than 75 brands and companies, including life-prolonging drugs for cancer patients.

John A. Elliott, dean of the School of Business, said that Minoff's contributions to the pharmaceutical industry to market life-extending cancer medications are remarkable.

"Mr. Minoff is an inspiration to our students, many of whom, like Richard, believe that social benevolence should be part of the fabric of every successful company, and that improving the world is not an optional endeavor," said Elliott.





“I’ve always considered the engineering field to be vast and full of wonders. I’m so grateful for the Dominick A. Pagano Scholarship.”

**Maurice Wallace '16**  
School of Engineering

## Sikorsky Supports Engineering Scholars

**L**ongtime corporate supporter Sikorsky Aircraft Corp. created new scholarships that are helping incoming and current students across the School of Engineering. The scholarships provide recognition and financial assistance to talented students who need help achieving their potential.

UConn’s engineering graduates are exceptional leaders in the field and contribute to economic development by companies like Sikorsky.

“Sikorsky is a willing and great partner for us. The variety of scholarships funded will reach a number of our top students and help them here at UConn and down the road as they launch their engineering careers,” said Kazem Kazerounian, dean of the School of Engineering.

### Sikorsky’s gift includes:

- **\$12,000 Bridge scholarship** to enable students from underrepresented groups to attend an intensive program in mathematics, chemistry, physics, and computer programming the summer before their freshman year.
- **\$30,000 Renewable merit scholarship** for students majoring in mechanical or electrical engineering.
- **\$25,000 Graduate student fellowship** for top graduate students in mechanical or electrical engineering to create a pipeline of refined expertise.

“We have a strong alumni base of UConn graduates at Sikorsky and establishing this program at UConn has been a top priority.”

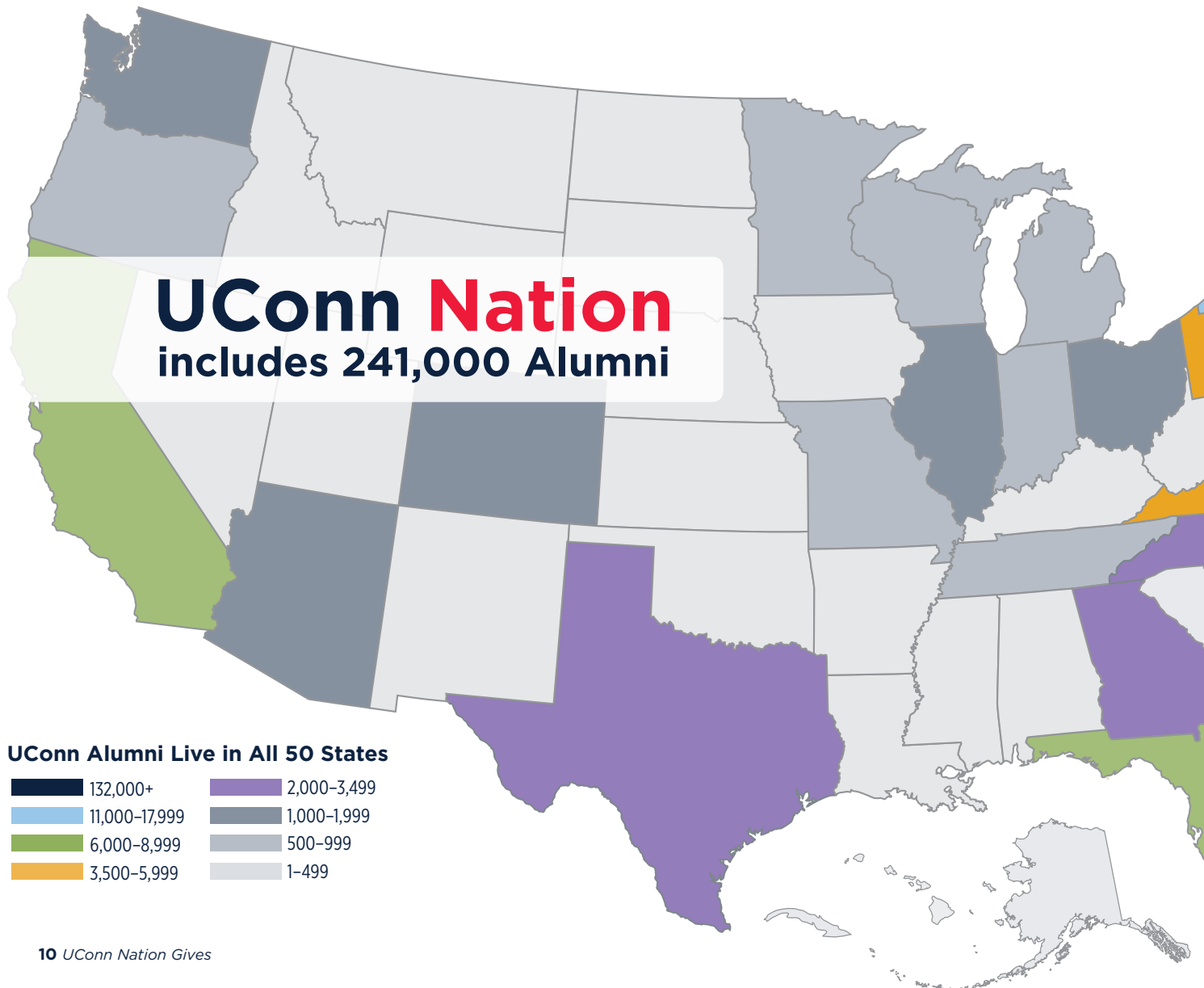
**Dulcy O’Rourke**  
Sikorsky’s Research & Engineering Manager of University Relations





## Building a Stronger UConn Nation

**T**he UConn Foundation and UConn Alumni Association integrated operations during fiscal 2015 to develop a more inclusive approach to engaging UConn's 241,000 alumni living across the US and around the world. Consolidating institutional advancement activities under one umbrella instead of having two separate organizations with overlapping goals means greater efficiency and increased resources to build a stronger UConn Nation. Our goal is to dramatically increase opportunities for alumni to stay involved in the life of the University.



**Montique Cotton Kelly**  
Associate Vice President  
for Alumni Relations



## Three Questions for Mo

### What is the biggest change alumni will notice?

We present so many different types of events across the country. One of the biggest changes we're proud of is **the way we communicate** these terrific opportunities. We're streamlining and enhancing communications so alumni receive fewer, but more targeted emails with lists of multiple events in their area. And we launched a **new mobile app** so alumni can check out what's happening from anywhere. Alumni can easily pick and choose what interests them to customize their experience with UConn.

### What are the top three things alumni have to look forward to in the near future?

Our alumni can look forward to a lot more variety in the types of events we produce. From paint nights to our new collaborative effort called the Science Salon, alumni will see **refreshing new programming**.

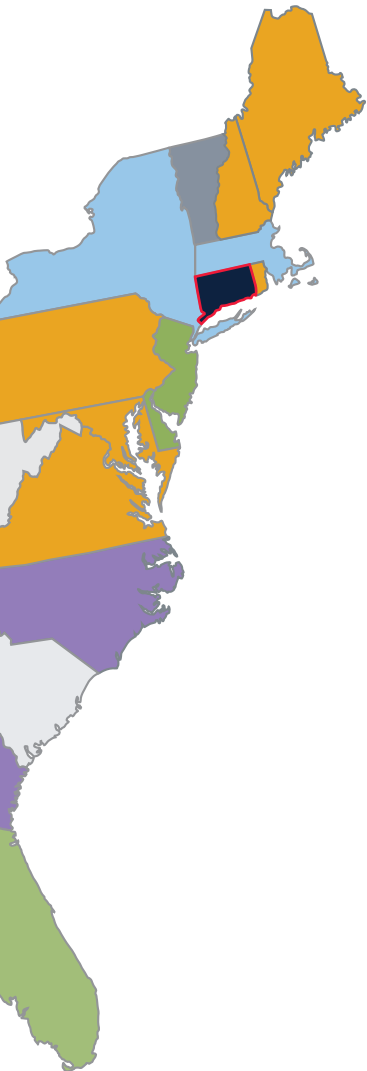
We are really making a commitment to **get our top faculty out**, both locally and nationally. UConn is a top-25 research institution and we want our alumni to see this up close and personal.

New alumni and career **networks** are

in the works so that our alumni can help recruit and provide internships for UConn students. Alumni tell us they want to make a difference, and we're here to help them do it.

### What's special about the UConn Nation?

I'm constantly motivated by how passionate our alumni are. Our team gets asked all the time, How can I help? UConn alumni want to show their support in so many ways. The **outpouring of support** for our new model of alumni engagement has been truly amazing.



# Fundraising Summary 2015

**T**he close of the fiscal year on June 30, 2015 marked the highest two-year period of fundraising in the history of the UConn Foundation. Donors contributed \$78 million during FY15, surpassed only by the \$81 million given in FY14.

The Transform Lives initiative to raise \$150 million for scholarships and fellowships had a tremendous launch. The number of donors giving toward scholarships increased by 494 individuals. The effort raised \$16.3 million in FY15. Total fundraising at the close of the fiscal year, including the silent phase, was \$38.1 million.

Alumni and friends increased support in a number of areas important to UConn's continued momentum toward becoming a top-10 public research university. Of the \$78 million in new gifts and commitments, \$20.6 million was earmarked for bricks and mortar, an 81 percent increase over FY14. Donors increased support for research by 26 percent to \$9.6 million and for faculty by 11 percent to \$5.2 million. Supporters contributed \$8.8 million for UConn Health and \$16.9 million for the Division of Athletics.

Fiscal 2015 was a strong year for planned gifts, or pledges to include the UConn Foundation in a donor's estate plans, raising \$30.8 million.

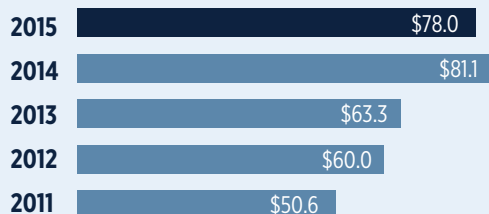
Most gifts are designated by the donors for specific purposes. The two main ways donors gave were:

- \$58 million in current-use gifts for operating expenses;
- \$20 million toward endowments, which are invested in perpetuity to maintain earning power, and spin off an annually approved distribution for the donors' intended purpose.

Dollars made available to the University (in accordance with the intention of the funds) totaled \$374 million.

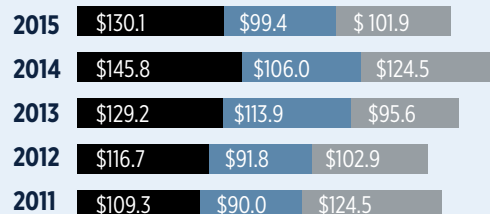
## NEW GIFTS AND COMMITMENTS

Dollars in Millions



## ENDOWMENT ASSETS BY PURPOSE

Dollars in Millions



	University	UConn Health	Athletics	Total
Scholarships	\$82.5	\$5.7	\$41.9	\$130.1
Faculty	\$53.5	\$46.1	-	\$99.4
Programs	\$64.0	\$34.2	\$3.7	\$101.9
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$199.8</b>	<b>\$86.0</b>	<b>\$45.6</b>	<b>\$331.4</b>

■ Scholarship Support ■ Faculty Support ■ Program Support



# Financial Statement Overview 2015

**T**he UConn Foundation navigated the volatile financial markets of FY15 relatively well by earning a 2.04 percent return on its investments, beating its policy benchmark by 13 basis points. This led to the sixth consecutive year of positive returns for the portfolio and an 8.0 percent average annual return during the same period.

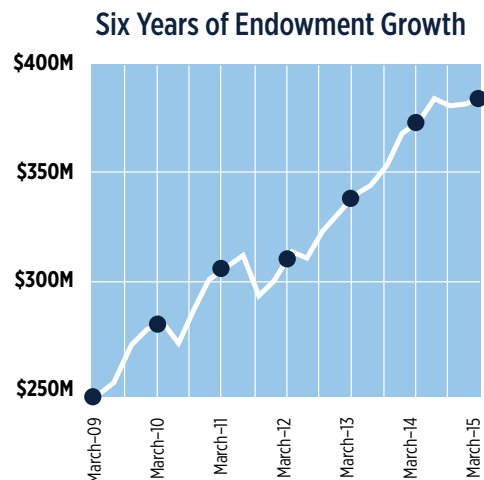
The long-term portfolio totals \$332.1 million. During the six-year period, the portfolio grew by \$107 million, or 48 percent. UConn's total endowment (Foundation's endowment and endowed gifts to the University and Law School Foundation) now stands at \$383.1 million. That represents an increase of \$129.4 million, or 51 percent, since June 30, 2009.

Despite positive investment performance, the Foundation's total assets declined by \$7.5 million. The annual outflows from the investment portfolio totaled 5.3 percent, exceeding the 2.04 percent return for the year. A close look at the **Audited Statement of Financial Position** shows that, although there were minor changes in most line items, the two investment line items dropped by \$7.6 million, accounting for the decline in total assets. The decline in the investment portfolio resulted in an increase in the provision for underwater endowments and a drop in temporarily restricted net assets, while permanently restricted net assets increased by \$7.8 million.

The **Audited Statement of Activities and Changes in Net Assets** also reflects the volatility in the markets with total revenues declining by \$38 million compared to the prior year. Again, this variance was caused by the drop in investment income, which totaled \$37.8 million.

Although total revenue declined compared to FY14, expenses declined by \$13.6 million as well, leading to an overall reduction in the Foundation's net assets by \$1.1 million. Operating expenses decreased by \$1,000 and expenditures for University support decreased by \$13.6 million. The decline in University support was primarily due to the completion of the Werth Family Basketball Champions Center, which was funded entirely by private donations and had expenses of \$20.7 million in FY14 compared to \$4.5 million in FY15. Year over year, expenses for all other University support grew by \$2.6 million, continuing a steady trend of UConn's increasing reliance on private support.

UNIVERSITY ENDOWMENT	Value	Funds
UConn Foundation	\$350,578,953	1,545
Law School Foundation	\$20,852,857	114
University Funds Managed by UConn Foundation	\$11,717,023	77
<b>Total University Endowment</b>	<b>\$383,148,833</b>	<b>1,736</b>



# Consolidated Statements 2015

## AUDITED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

June 30, 2015 and 2014

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
	(DOLLARS IN THOUSANDS)	
<b>Assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 3,960	\$ 2,568
Restricted cash	887	989
Pledges receivable, net	32,581	33,541
Investments, operating	58,402	63,620
Investments, endowment	347,388	349,824
Funds held in trust by others	19,211	18,339
Endowments held for the University	11,717	12,176
Cash surrender value of life insurance	524	443
Property and equipment, net	6,594	7,326
Other assets	1,169	1,102
Total assets	<u>\$ 482,433</u>	<u>\$ 489,928</u>
<b>Liabilities and Net Assets</b>		
Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 6,248	\$ 10,697
Trusts and annuities payable	2,392	3,209
Endowments held for the University	11,717	12,176
Accrued debt service interest	114	119
Capital lease obligations	70	90
Bonds and notes payable	26,110	26,728
Total liabilities	<u>46,651</u>	<u>53,019</u>
Net Assets		
Unrestricted	(726)	3,404
Temporarily restricted	96,702	101,465
Permanently restricted	339,806	332,040
Total net assets	<u>435,782</u>	<u>436,909</u>
Total liabilities and net assets	<u>\$ 482,433</u>	<u>\$ 489,928</u>

## AUDITED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

For the Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2015 and 2014

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
	(DOLLARS IN THOUSANDS)	
<b>Revenues, gains, and other support</b>		
Contributions	\$ 32,504	\$ 34,597
Net total investment return	10,067	47,826
Contractual payments from the University	9,139	8,270
Memberships and other income	1,712	733
Total revenues, gains, and other support	<u>53,422</u>	<u>91,426</u>
<b>Expenses</b>		
University Support		
Werth Family UConn Basketball Champions Center construction	4,454	20,699
Faculty and staff compensation	8,936	9,652
Student scholarships, fellowships, and awards	10,902	8,846
General program and research support	5,516	4,558
Fundraising events, promotions, and donor cultivation	2,353	2,411
Faculty, staff and student travel, conferences, and meetings	2,575	2,117
Equipment	2,405	2,116
Facilities construction, improvements, and related expenses	125	399
Alumni Relations	89	138
Total University support	<u>37,355</u>	<u>50,936</u>
Foundation support		
Development expenses	13,553	13,166
Administrative expenses	3,514	3,902
Total Foundation support	<u>17,067</u>	<u>17,068</u>
Total expenses	<u>54,422</u>	<u>68,004</u>
Less change in net assets not owned by Foundation	<u>127</u>	<u>(18)</u>
Change in net assets	(1,127)	23,440
Net assets, beginning of year	436,909	413,469
Net assets, end of year	<u>\$ 435,782</u>	<u>\$ 436,909</u>





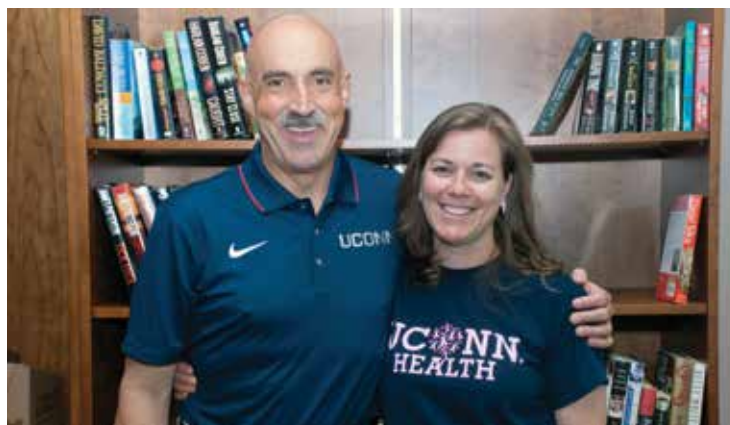
“UConn is a very special place. The young people who go to UConn come out better than they went in, not only in terms of education but also in attitude and life skills. UConn does a great job and my family is pleased to be able to support it.”

**Peter Werth '15H**  
Donor

## New Athletics, Health Care Facilities Open

**T**he 300,000-square-foot UConn Health Outpatient Pavilion, home of ambulatory care and the Carole and Ray Neag Comprehensive Cancer Center, opened its doors in 2015 as part of the nearly \$1 billion Farmington campus expansion. In August 2015, Tom Walmsley '82 stocked the shelves of the new Maryann dePreaux Walmsley Cancer Center Library, named in memory of his wife, who was a 1998 graduate of the UConn School of Business. The books were donated through drives at Cigna, where dePreaux Walmsley was an investment manager, and The Travelers Companies, where Walmsley is second vice president for bond and financial products. Working alongside him was Abigail O'Brien, a breast cancer survivor and fundraiser at the UConn Foundation. O'Brien and her husband, David, made a gift to name a patient room. The Outpatient Pavilion also features the Richard and Jane Lublin Waiting Room and the UConn Health Auxiliary Patient and Family Education Center, supported by a major gift from auxiliary members.

The Werth Family UConn Basketball Champions Center, financed entirely by gifts from donors, was dedicated in October 2014. The Werth family supported the project with one of the largest gifts ever to the Division of Athletics.





## Alumnus to Match \$5M for New Soccer Complex

**A**n alumnus star athlete is giving his support—and name—to transform soccer facilities at UConn. Tony Rizza '87 pledged \$5 million and is challenging the UConn community to match his gift. The match challenge along with a previous \$3 million commitment will support the new Rizza Family Soccer Complex, which will include a new stadium as well as the existing training grounds and practice field for the men's and women's teams.

The new stadium will be constructed on the site of the Joseph J. Morrone Stadium, which was built in 1969, and will continue to bear the name of legendary Coach Joe Morrone (1935–2015). The enhanced facilities will include a strength and training room, film room, media room, hospitality suite, and trophy displays.

“To be a successful student-athlete at a high level like UConn’s, one must be disciplined, dedicated, motivated, and focused on achieving goals. I learned this during my four years playing soccer in Storrs, and I have used it in my professional life every day since the day I graduated,” said Rizza, who is senior managing director of Columbus Circle Investors Inc., a Stamford investment advisory firm.

“This gift is my way of recognizing coaches, faculty, and campus staff who helped me while I was at UConn, and it’s a small way of saying thank you.”

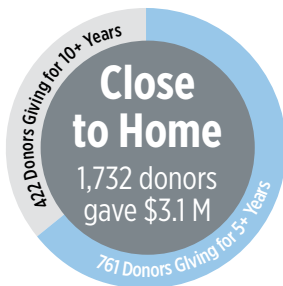
**Tony Rizza '87**  
Donor

**\$16.9M**  
raised for  
Athletics





Faculty  
and staff  
(current  
and retired)  
gave  
generously  
through the  
**CLOSE  
TO HOME**  
campaign



## Fellowship Brings Exceptional Faculty to UConn-Waterbury

**D**avid '55 and Joan Reed's special fondness for Waterbury and for UConn resulted in the largest gift ever to the Waterbury campus. Their \$1 million gift established the David and Joan Reed Faculty Fellowship to bring UConn's best faculty to teach in Waterbury.

"Access to great education is an essential ingredient of a flourishing community, and we believe our gift will be helpful in enriching UConn-Waterbury and the entire area," said Dr. David Reed.

Dr. David Reed attended the Waterbury campus for two years before transferring to Storrs, and then moving on to Yale for medical school. The couple spent their adult lives in the Waterbury area—David to practice internal medicine in affiliation with Waterbury Hospital and Joan to teach mathematics at Amity Sr. High School and as a volunteer for charitable organizations.

"The Reed Fellowship will bring exceptional professors and exciting content to the Waterbury campus," said Provost Mun Choi. "The holder of the fellowship will mentor others in teaching and stimulate intellectual debate and discourse, and the fellowship provides funds for curriculum development and for instructional technologies that enrich learning."

Professor Mitchell Green of the Philosophy Department and an expert in the evolutionary biology of communication was appointed the first Reed Fellow for the spring 2015 semester. Green, whose current research is funded by the National Science Foundation, was recruited from the University of Virginia in 2013.





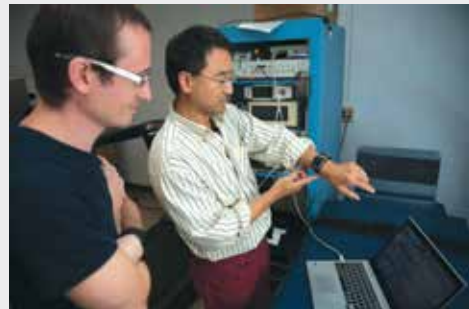
## Faculty Endowments Attract Eminent Scholars

**P**hilanthropy plays an essential role in UConn's faculty excellence, supporting 95 chairs and professorships across the University and UConn Health. The faculty is the backbone of any university; to be sure, a university's capacity to recruit stars directly affects its research productivity, academic rigor, and reputation. Endowed chairs and professorships are one of UConn's most important tools to recruit and retain eminent academicians, scientists, and doctors to lead forward-thinking and highly regarded programs in the STEM fields, the humanities, medicine, law, and the arts.



"I am humbled and honored to hold the Friar Chair. I have devoted the past 20 years of my career to studying leadership and teams and am privileged to be recognized. This chair is helping me fulfill ambitious research goals like working with NASA to prepare astronaut teams for a Mars mission. I'm also gratified by the difference this support is making in my work with our students, who are pursuing their own important and impactful research questions."

—**John Mathieu**, appointed to the Friar Chair in Leadership and Teams, School of Business



"I called my wife grinning ear to ear when I heard the news. Knowing the scientific advances the Krenicki Chair could fund and the excellent team I would work with is what drew me home to UConn last year. Simply put, this chair will help us save lives. Thanks to the Krenicki family, we're in the prototype phase for wearable technology that will monitor cardiovascular symptoms to detect and prevent cardio-pulmonary conditions like stroke and heart attack."

—**Ki Chon '86 (ENGR)**, appointed to the John and Donna Krenicki Professor in Biomedical Engineering





## *A Message from Daniel Toscano '87*

# Looking Forward

“UConn helped me build my future. My wife, Tresa, and I enthusiastically pay it forward by supporting scholarships in memory of our parents. We believe in the power of scholarships to transform lives. And we believe in UConn!”

**I** am immensely proud to be a part of the UConn Nation and honored to serve as the next chair of the UConn Foundation Board of Directors. With the integration of alumni relations, the UConn Foundation has a number of exciting initiatives on the horizon to strengthen our alumni base. Our first order of business was eliminating the old dues model, which excluded 95 percent of alumni. Every one of UConn’s 240,000-plus alumni is an important member of the UConn family, and in the year ahead we are stepping up efforts to engage more alumni in the life of this great University. We are also committed to increasing philanthropic support for students through the Transform Lives initiative and raising critical support for programs, research, and capital projects across UConn and UConn Health. I look forward to working with UConn’s generous donors to fulfill their charitable goals and help them create maximum impact.

**Daniel Toscano '87**

Incoming Chair and Member Since 2008  
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**Thank you, UConn Nation!**



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