

Emeriti Matters

UNIVERSITY OF HARTFORD

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EMERITI ASSOCIATION

Alicia Hansen, Director of the Harrison Libraries.

As a research librarian with over 20 years in higher education, I am pleased to join the Harrison Libraries as its new director. My previous professional home was at the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, Massachusetts, and I am excited to bring much of what I learned there to the successful and highly experienced team here at UHart. I am well-versed in the collections, special collections, equipment, and special services needed for a thriving music and fine arts library, and I am pleased to know that our Allen Library already has a firm grip on all of it.

My path in librarianship is primarily research and instruction, and while I'm not a cataloger, I hope to serve as a valuable partner with my staff on how the back end of our library systems translates to our user experiences. I am comfortable being a part of and supporting all of the programming, pedagogies, and curriculum that make up UHart colleges, and I have already learned much from my campus colleagues.

I am originally from the New Orleans area, have a master's degree in piano pedagogy, and am thrilled to be among musicians and music educators once again. I am proud of the breadth of our print and digital collections in the Mortensen Library, as well as in our archives.

I started my career as a music librarian at Loyola University New Orleans, a Jesuit institution, and I feel it is very easy to subscribe to the Jesuit philosophy of education—educating the whole person and doing for others, with an emphasis on social justice. My priorities are to connect with faculty as partners in educating our students on how to research effectively and ethically, to promote the library as a foundation for information literacy and civic engagement, and to reach out to graduate students who are conducting research to assist them in understanding the scholarly conversation and perfecting citations in theses and dissertations. To do that, we plan to coordinate with partners across campus for collaboration and programming around student and faculty success. Librarians are crucial for helping our users navigate myriad information sources – news, media, data, scholarship – so we see platforms like Google Scholar as a valuable tool, not unlike JSTOR, ABI/Inform, and other subscription databases. Involving students with libraries in their first year is key. Often, after an instruction session or one-on-one research session with a second or third-year student, we hear: “I wish I knew all of this when I first started classes here!”

Emeriti Association members can benefit from the Harrison Libraries, too. Research carrels (private spaces) can be allocated four hours at a time by checking out a key at the front desk. Your university ID and UHart email address are keys to the library: borrow books for a semester; access shared resources through the Boston Library Consortium (BLC) and Connecticut Library Consortium (CLC); and sign up for free subscriptions to the *New York Times* and *Wall Street Journal*.



UHart's Presidents' College: Fire Up Your Synapses! Michele Troy

As emeriti faculty and staff, you likely know about the Presidents' College, UHart's lifelong learning program, a gathering spot for adults who crave lively exchange and whose curiosity for learning remains vibrant. This coming year, one of your very own—Nancy Stuart, Dean Emerita of the Hartford Art School—will step in as acting director, while Director Michele Troy steps out into her sabbatical year.



Michele Troy

Stuart and Troy have cooked up an abundance of exciting programs for fall 2024, including: supersonic flight, *femmes fatales* in film, recorded music then and now, modern detective fiction, and a behind-the-scenes look at what it takes to be a curator. On the current events front, the Presidents' College will offer a three-part series on "Pathways to Peace Palestine and Israel," featuring both local and international experts. Jilda Aliotta discusses the implications of the recent Supreme Court decisions, while Warren Goldstein's Hot Topics will be even hotter in election season. Catherine Stevenson brings her delight in Victorian literature and contemporary theater to "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde on Page and Stage," in partnership with Hartford Stage. Don't forget Javon Jackson and Matt Dechamplain, presenting the great women artists of jazz, and Mike Magee, delving into the future of A.I. in medicine. There's more, of course: more of our "Conversations" series on timely topics, more arts and history, more great books to discuss.

Emerita professor of psychology and former faculty senate chair, Anne Pidano, likens standing before this impressive lineup of experts to being a kid at the penny candy counter, pointing to one treat and then another, waltzing out of the local spa—the New England term for the local corner store—content with everything she had chosen for her paper bag. For Pidano, the Presidents' College helps keep her connected to the University community, while also keeping her synapses firing. After sampling last semester's array, she's looking forward to this year's benefits, as well: learning from experts, pursuing topics she might not have otherwise, and expanding her intellectual range by exchanging ideas with other registrants, regardless of the similarities or differences in opinion.

In the hopes that you too will find some treats for your metaphorical paper bag, the Presidents' College invites you to choose one free lecture each semester (or take \$20 off a multi-session course).

Registration is open and our free Fall Kickoff – think art, music, presenters, camaraderie! – is on September 18, 4:30–6 p.m. at the Joseloff Gallery. Learn more and register on our [Courses and Lectures](#) page or at hartford.edu/pc. To receive updates via our e-newsletter or to volunteer, write us at pcollege@hartford.edu.

Donor Reception

Each year, exclusive of the years that COVID-19 was prominent, Regina Miller hosts a reception for scholarship recipients and donors. This year's reception was held on April 10. Among the esteemed attendees was Samantha Chasse, a former scholarship recipient. Guests were treated to lively conversation and delicious food prepared by the hostess herself. Please contribute to the scholarship fund and make plans to attend next year's reception.



Remembering Leo Smith—Ladimer Nagurney

Leo T. Smith joined the mechanical engineering department at the University of Hartford College of Engineering in the fall of 1978. A Connecticut native, Leo received his undergraduate degree at the University of Connecticut and his PhD at Yale. Prior to joining the UHart community he taught at Drexel University. At UHart he quickly became one of nine core professors who built the College of Engineering into what it is today. With his passing earlier this year, the college has lost a valued pioneer.

Leo, who was known as a master in the classroom, was chosen by our students as *Professor of the Year* five times throughout his career. He taught a wide variety of mechanical engineering and engineering science courses. I co-taught a course with him after I was on the faculty for over a decade. I think that I learned more than our students. I used many of his course organizational techniques throughout my career. Bob Celmer remembers that Leo's penmanship was like art. He said Leo even used a ruler to cross his t's. Had Leo been teaching now, photos of his blackboard could be used to easily produce an outline for a textbook for any of his courses.

Leo served as chair of the mechanical engineering department from 1985 to 1991, then joined the faculty senate and became its chair from 2000 to 2002.

Leo loved smoking his pipe and, weather permitting, sitting on the bench just outside UT Hall. Students and colleagues who did not mind the soothing aroma would regularly join him on the bench for a chat.

When his sons were young, Leo set up some Lionel model trains for them to play with. More than four decades later the trains are still set up in his basement and show signs of recent use. Upon his retirement from full-time teaching at the University in 2007, he was given a toy boxcar decorated with the University of Hartford 50 Year logo.

After retiring, Leo became an active member of the Emeriti Association, served on its executive committee, chaired the scholarship committee, and served as vice chair and chair.

For his wide-ranging service to the University, he received the Trachtenberg Award in 2004. The Hartford Section of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers chose him as the ASME Distinguished Engineer of the Year in 2015.

Leo always enjoyed fly fishing and tending to his garden. He was a voracious reader of mysteries and would often visit CETA and, if prompted, regale his former colleagues with detailed descriptions of his latest read.

Part of Leo's legacy was his demand that everything we do should be fair. About once a year, in a college faculty meeting, he would pound his fist on the desk and loudly inform the dean that whatever was being discussed was not being discussed properly.

Both Leo's legacy and personality—one in the same, really--will always be remembered by University faculty and students.



Leo chaired the scholarship committee for several years. Here he is with Melissa Kenney and Brittany Hines—emeriti scholars in 2014

2024 Scholarship Awardees

The Emeriti Association is pleased to announce the recipients of Emeriti Scholarship for the academic year 2024—2025. Every year since 2007—2008, scholarships have been awarded to exceptional students. This year, three students from a group of 21 applicants were selected, and each will receive a \$3,500 scholarship. The applicant pool contained many talented students, making selecting the recipients for this year challenging. Please plan to attend the Plenary Meeting in October to hear from the honorees. Their stories are below:

2024 Walter Harrison Scholarship Award—Joseph Lothamer

Joseph Lothamer will be a senior in the fall of 2024. He is studying orthotics and prosthetics in the College of Education, Nursing and Health Professions. He is also a pole vaulter on the University track and field team. Carefully balancing sports and academics, he has achieved a GPA of 3.95. He plans to graduate with a BS/MSPO in 2026 and to work as a prosthetist/orthotist.

Joseph wants to create custom devices for those who have lost limbs or have physical impairments. During his sophomore year, he used a program called Enable with a 3-D printer to generate a prosthetic hand at a fraction of the cost of a standard device. This helped him realize the potential of new technologies and how they might be used to help people with disabilities who might not be able to afford standard prosthetics. He also became interested in 3-D printing and was eager to tackle more difficult projects.



He became involved in a research project with a physics professor to study the forces in a shoulder joint. Joseph designed a 3-D printed arm and used it to investigate the forces exerted on the deltoid muscle. The research, which received support from the NASA Connecticut Space Grant Consortium and UHart's College of Arts and Sciences, is being prepared for publication.

In addition to academic activities, Joseph holds records for both indoor and outdoor pole vaulting at the University. The demands on his time are significant because practice often starts at 5:15 am and the team spends many weekends traveling to competitions. Joseph also mentors younger athletes, and says their success is his reward.

Despite his busy schedule, Joseph still finds time to participate in several on-campus organizations. He serves as treasurer of the Prosthetics and Orthotics Student Association, and is a member of the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC).

2024 Humphrey Tonkin Scholarship Award—Grace Farland

Grace Farland will be a senior in the fall of 2024. She is working to earn a degree in Integrated Elementary and Special Education from the College of Education, Nursing, and Health Professions, and is also a member of the Women's Golf team. Her desire for excellence is evident in her current GPA of 4.0

Grace's goal is to become an outstanding teacher. She embraces the responsibility to guide young students and, through them, to shape the future. To that end, Grace has shown determination in her preparation for classes, active participation in discussions, and engagement in class activities. As part of her program, Grace taught two mathematics lessons that required detailed planning. She demonstrated an ability to think on her feet and

effectively field student questions. She is confident that being an elementary school teacher will be rewarding, for her as well as her students.

Grace's involvement in Women's Golf has made it possible for her to form close friendships with people from all over the world. Her success as a student-athlete taught her a number of valuable life lessons, such as how to manage her time and take responsibility for her actions.

Since freshman year she has been a member of the University's Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) which gave her many opportunities to serve – such as participating in Junior Achievement Day. Accompanied by two of her fellow student-athletes, Grace spent the day at Noah Webster Elementary School in Hartford, teaching second-grade students about the importance of entrepreneurship, families, neighborhoods, work, college, career readiness, and more. Grace has also participated in SAAC Food Drives, the Hartford Hawks Golf Classic Charity Tournament, Elizabeth Park Garden Clean-Up with Hawk Hall, and many other service events.



2024 Emeriti Scholarship Award—Hilary Bareiss

Hilary Bareiss will be a senior in the fall of 2024. She is a Visual Communications Design major in the Hartford Art School, and fully intended to follow a graphic design path – but her experiences at the University inspired her to think bigger. So she is also taking minors in Judaic Studies, Printmaking, and Art History, and excelling in all of them. She is in the Honors Program and has a 3.94 GPA.

Hilary is currently focused on a career in art conservation and plans to pursue a masters degree in that subject after she graduates. She interned at a local museum over the summer.

In 2022-23 Hilary received a Dorothy Goodwin Scholarship, an empowering and highly rewarding program which helped her with time management, organizational skills, and public speaking. As part of the program, she did an independent research project focused on the development of Jewish art throughout the Diaspora. The research included the study of illuminated manuscripts and early press-printed prayer books. Her interest and expertise in Judaic Studies, Art History, printmaking, and design were important factors in her research.



In addition to her academic experiences, Hilary has sought ways to serve the community. In her first year at the University, she joined the Hillel student board as the community service chair, organizing fundraising events for displaced Jewish people in Ukraine and participation in the global Good Deeds Day. As part of the Good Deeds Day program, students on campus worked with Ari's Bears and made stuffed animals that were delivered to pediatric hospitals. After a year as community service chair, she became Vice President and was responsible for overseeing the program-related activities of the student board. She now serves as Hillel's External President which involves working closely with the Internal Co-President and Vice President. Her work focuses on Hillel's external student presence and organizing collaborative interactions for the student board. She works to make sure Hillel is known as a safe and welcoming environment for all students on campus.

Updates from Former Emeriti Scholars

Alesha Heacock (2019)—Since the 2019 ceremony, Alesha has completed a Master of Science in Prosthetics and Orthotics, subsequently fulfilled residencies, and passed all board exams to begin her practice as a certified prosthetist orthotist (CPO). Throughout this time, Alesha also participated in various research programs, including prosthetic research that compared different knees available to various K-functional level patients using balance-related outcome measures, and the development of a new orthotics outcome measuring tool. She was also published in *The O&P Edge* magazine for an independent research endeavor that bridges prosthetics with Spanish to augment informed decision-making for patients with lower extremity prosthetics.

Anna Pan (2013)—Anna graduated from UC Berkeley with an MBA and currently works as a senior data scientist at Salesforce. She is also on staff at The Hartt School as a collaborative pianist and enjoys being back on the University of Hartford campus.

Carl Vogel (2008) Carl is a partner and head of research at 6th Man Ventures, a venture capital firm that partners with founders building the world's most impactful crypto technologies and products. Prior to investing, Carl worked as a product management lead at Google and Paxos. His career as an engineer and strategic analyst began at General Dynamics Electric Boat, where he worked on next-generation submarine concepts. Carl graduated from the University of Hartford in 2010 from the acoustical engineering & music program and remains grateful for what he gained from the cross-disciplinary program, for the incredible students and lifelong friends he met on campus, and for the mentorship of Dr. Robert Celmer, who built the program. Carl also holds a MBA from Harvard Business School and a Master of Engineering degree from Penn State University. Carl says he enjoys the lively startup ecosystem of New York City, which is his home base.

Camryn Butera (2021)—Camryn is currently attending Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine (PCOM) in an osteopathic medical degree program.

Samantha Chasse (2018)—After graduating in 2019, Samantha received a Doctor of Physical Therapy degree from the University of Hartford in 2022 and a physical therapy license from the State of Connecticut. Samantha is currently working at Advanced Physical Therapy in Torrington as an outpatient orthopedic provider.

Sydney Lewis (2021)—Sydney graduated with a Bachelor of Civil Engineering degree with a concentration in environmental engineering and a minor in psychology. Sydney now works for Tighe & Bond as a consulting Civil Engineer in their water/wastewater business line, and takes on both construction and design roles for a variety of projects, including drinking water mains, clean water and wastewater treatment plants, and sewer rehabilitation.

Nicole Paquette (2023)—In the past year, I have continued my studies in Flute Performance towards a Bachelor of Music and have taken on a Performing Arts Management minor. I'm still in the Honors Program and have raised my GPA to a 3.99 as of the Fall 2023 semester. While I work as a substitute teacher and special education one-on-one aid for nonverbal children in the spring and summer, I also took on a volunteer mentor role at the Manchester Community Music School Flute Choir in NH. On the UHart campus, I continue to tutor flute students that cannot attend regular flute technique classes and have been asked to lead the regularly scheduled classes next year. I'm involved with the UHart Catholic Campus Choristers (church band), Stratosphere Flute Choir, Blue Hour Flute Quartet, and Hartt Wind Ensemble with whom I perform and rehearse with regularly. Looking towards the future, I plan to audition for graduate schools, military band positions, and am job searching for music business internships.

Anna Leonard (2023)—Currently I am a first semester senior in the Psychology Department with a Gender and Sexuality Studies minor, that has an expected graduation date of Fall 2024. I have now had the honor to present twice at conferences put on by the Association of Women in Psychology. This has been because of research done with my professor and mentor Dr. Matacin in the fields of DEIJB, intersectionality, feminism, body image, and other applicable fields. Using research that was gathered in a first-year seminar that I precepted for alongside Dr. Matacin, I plan to write a formal article about the research findings and work on its publication for my senior non-thesis honors project. That study focused on body image and how that effects college aged individuals, especially those just coming to the University of Hartford. It is an area that I hope to pursue further with my plans of getting a Psy.D. in which I plan to begin the application process for soon. I still also remain a part of the Executive Board for the campus organization Women For Change, as I empower campus and community efforts for gender equality through leadership opportunities and social justice actions. Overall, I keep hoping to intertwine my social justice activism and my passion for clinical psychology in both my academic career and my participation in on and off campus communities.

Emily Rutledge (2023)—Emily Rutledge will be a 2024 graduate of the University of Hartford with a 4.0 GPA. She will be receiving a Bachelor of Arts in Mathematics with Secondary Education Certification and a minor in Accounting. She is involved in Hartford Events and Activities Team and Best Buddies on campus and holds the position of Secretary for both organizations. She also works at the box offices on campus. She is currently completing her student teaching in a 7th grade math classroom in West Hartford and is enjoying starting to take over the classroom, creating lessons, and getting to know the students. After graduation she plans to pursue a career in education or accounting.

Your UHart Email Address, Directory Entry, and use of Office 365

In collaboration with Sebby Sorentino and Katherine Black, we have clarified the process for emeriti to retain university email addresses and UHart web directory entries.

As an emeriti, you may list details of your status and professional background (profile) on the University website directory. To add your profile, go to the UHart website and click on the option called “Directory,” then click on “Profile Change Form” and follow instructions to add or update your profile.

All retirees with emeritus status may also retain their UHart email addresses. However, there is an expense associated with allocating and maintaining email addresses and unused email accounts as they represent a security risk for the University.

Please note that if you decide not to use your UHart email, please email the ITS Help Desk (helpdesk@hartford.edu) with a request to remove your account. If you have not used your email for one year, you will receive a warning from ITS that the address will be deleted.

Those with emeriti status continue to have access to Microsoft 365. Employees with university-supplied personal computers (PCs) have full access to office.com and have Microsoft Office applications installed on their PCs; retirees with emeritus status have full access to office.com but cannot download office applications to their PCs. Office.com requires a connection to the internet. Retirees who prefer to download Office applications—for example, to enable offline use—have two types of accounts from which to select: a personal plan, which is \$70.00 per year for one person only, installed on up to five devices; and a family plan, for \$100.00 per year and sharable by up to six people).

The next plenary meeting will be on campus at the 1877 Club on October 22, 2024, at 10 a.m.

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In Memoriam We Mark the Passing of These Retired Faculty Members

A&S—Paul Bugl; CETA—Frank Lahey; EHP—Barbara Intrilligator; Hartt—Humbert Lucarelli; Hillyer—Richard Lugli, Donald Sukosky.

Welcoming Our New Members

Barney—James Bannister, Bharat Kolluri, and Celia Lofink; ENHP—Susan Eichar; Hartford Art School and Hartt—Glen Adsit (posthumously); Hartford Art School—Hirokazu Fukawa, Nancy Stuart (Dean Emerita), and John Willis; Hartt—Doris Lang Kosloff.

Emeriti Association Publication Committee:

Ralph Zegarelli, newsletter co-editor; Harry Workman, newsletter co-editor; Mary Dowst, Executive Secretary & Treasurer; Randi Ashton-Pritting, Regina Miller; Ladimer (Lad) Nagurney; Anne Pidano, and Martin Cohen. A special thank you to the Department of Communication and Marketing.

If you would like to join the committee, we would welcome your ideas and participation. If so inclined, contact Ralph Zegarelli (zegarelli@hartford.edu) with your interest in our growing organization.

Please visit the Emeriti website: hartford.edu/faculty-staff/faculty/emeriti/