

# New science facility will launch the second century in style

*Leo I. Higdon, Jr.*

**I AM HAPPY TO SHARE** the latest good news from campus. As I write this column, architects are drawing up the final plans for a building project that will transform New London Hall into a state-of-the-art facility for the life sciences and computer science. The project will involve an investment of more than \$20 million.

What better way to greet the future than to re-invent and re-invigorate the College's oldest academic building during our Centennial year? The new laboratories, classrooms and offices will open in the fall of 2012, just in time for the first year of the College's second century.

The expanded and renovated

building will provide the modern facilities and equipment we need to best support Connecticut College's collaborative, discovery-based approach to the sciences. Students here have opportunities to work side-by-side with faculty on research projects with the potential to change the world. Small classes with world-class teaching and mentoring prepare our students for success in top graduate programs, medical schools and a wide range of careers. Turn to page 36 to learn more about the project and see the artist's rendering of the planned addition to New London Hall.

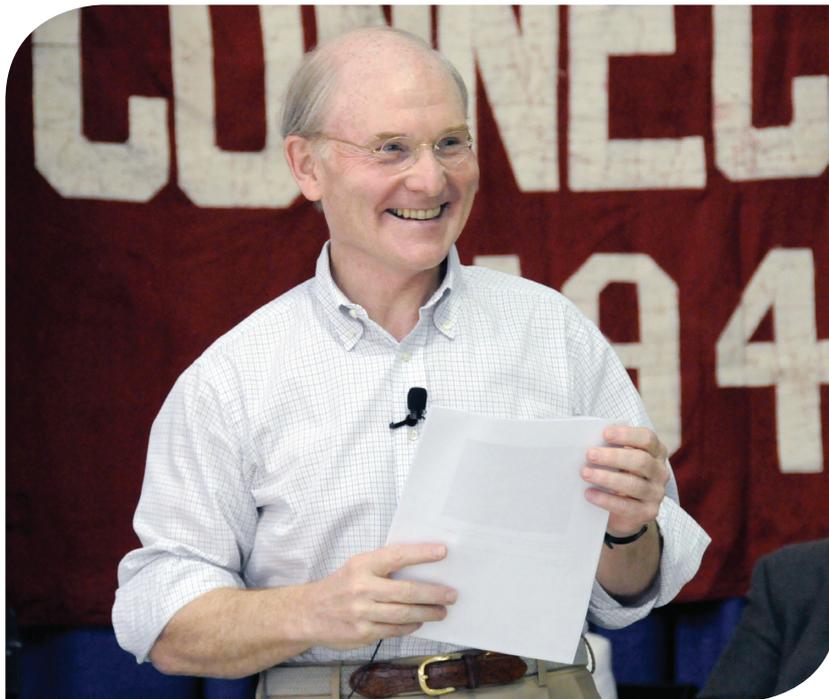
That we are able to proceed with a project of this magnitude in a time of continuing economic uncertainty

is a testimony to the strength of the institution and to the strong support of alumni, parents and friends. Through careful financial management and the Campaign for Connecticut College, we have been able to continue investing in the campus and the educational experience while some peer schools are delaying projects and paring back programs.

The Centennial provides us all with an opportunity to reflect on the College's history and how it has positioned us for a bright future. I have particularly enjoyed browsing through "The Architecture of Connecticut College," by Thomas Blake MacDonald '10, which won last year's Ames Prize for best honors thesis. You can read it at <http://digitalcommons.conncoll.edu>.

Connecticut College has always adapted and thrived in the face of challenge. As Blake explains, the College constructed some of its most iconic buildings during the depths of the Great Depression. Fanning Hall, Windham House, Jane Addams House, Harkness House, Freeman House, Bill Hall and Palmer Auditorium were all completed in the 1930s.

As usual, you'll find this issue of the magazine is packed with great stories about faculty, staff, students and alumni. After you've finished reading, I invite you to come back and visit where it all began. This year's Fall Weekend for families and alumni will take place Oct. 15-17. I hope to see you there. ■



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