Dear Friends,

This has been an exciting year marked by many important milestones as our Connecticut College community joined together to advance our vision for the future. The successes we achieved in 2007-2008 further strengthened the foundation we laid in the prior year, and support our strategic vision of even greater academic excellence and recognition.

We pursued a very aggressive agenda in 2007-2008, and our achievements clearly indicate that we are focused on the right strategies for this College and for this time. Every day we see the impact of our efforts, in the achievements of our students, in the dedication of our faculty, staff and trustees, and in the support of alumni and friends throughout the country and the world.

When we launch the public phase of our comprehensive campaign on October 25, we will bring together this strong extended community to celebrate our legacy and take a bold step toward our future. In this economy, it is more clear than ever that the kind of education we provide is extremely important because it prepares students to take on challenges the world has yet to see.

Connecticut College is an extraordinary institution. Our alumni are impacting the world, and our students are learning the critical thinking, analytical and leadership skills that will help them solve the most pressing issues of our time. As president, I am extremely pleased to share our successes with you as we continue to work together to raise the profile of Connecticut College as one of the finest liberal arts colleges in the land.

Sincerely,

Lee Higdon

David Canton, assistant professor of history, teaches a freshman seminar in the Jane Addams common room.
College establishes postdoctoral fellowship program with $800,000 grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

President Lee Higdon publishes opinion piece in the Hartford Courant about the value of a liberal arts education and the critical role liberal arts graduates will have as leaders in the future workforce.

Connecticut College opens new Women’s Center.

Connecticut College receives $1 million gift from Cathy Frank Halstead ’69 in memory of her mother, Louise Rosenstiel Frank ’44.

14 seniors are named Winthrop Scholars, Connecticut College’s highest academic honor.

Marc Forster, professor of history, wins the 2007 Nancy Batson Nisbet Rash Faculty Research Award. Derek Turner, associate professor of philosophy, earns the John S. King Memorial Teaching Award. Dirk Held, the Elizabeth S. Kruidenier ’48 Professor of Classics, receives the Helen Brooks Regan Faculty Leadership Award.

Connecticut College implements emergency communications system Connect-ED.

Connecticut College completes $9 million of campus renewal projects.

President Lee Higdon publishes opinion piece in The Philadelphia Inquirer that demystifies college tuition and outlines the value students gain from their investment in higher education.

First freshman seminars pilot in residence hall common rooms.

Connecticut College community hosts parents, alumni and friends for Fall Weekend.

Connecticut College celebrates the life and work of the late William Meredith, Pulitzer Prize-winning poet and Connecticut College emeritus professor.

The Connecticut College community gathers to remember the late Richard H. Goodwin, a former president of The Nature Conservancy and Katharine Blunt Professor Emeritus of Botany.

Pulitzer Prize-winning author Jhumpa Lahiri and fiction writer Ben Fountain headline the 14th Daniel Klagsbrun Symposium on Writing and Moral Vision.

Connecticut College is awarded a $100,000 grant from the Otto and Fran Walter Foundation to begin planning the College’s International Commons.

The National Science Foundation awards the College more than $1 million in grants.

Connecticut College adopts new aid policy to reduce student loan burden.

Marc Zimmer, the Barbara Zaccheo Kohn ’72 Professor of Chemistry, is named Connecticut Professor of the Year.

Connecticut College earns reaccreditation from the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education of the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, which also notes the College’s “immense promise and opportunity.”

Connecticut College is listed among the top producers of U.S. Fulbright students by The Chronicle of Higher Education.

Diane Y. Williams ’59 makes $1 million planned gift.

College launches on-campus composting initiative.

Connecticut College’s Children’s Program earns national accreditation.

President Lee Higdon announces plans to build new fitness center by fall 2009. The $8 million facility is funded entirely with gifts to the College.

Connecticut College launches Science Leaders Program to increase the number of women and minority students graduating from the College with a degree and research experience in the sciences.

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College launches on-campus composting initiative.
New gifts and commitments to the College reach $25.5 million for the year.

Faculty research grants are up 11.3% to $1,158,656.

Connecticut College hosts the International Chrysophyte Symposium.

Camel Athletics finish year with 4 All-Americans, 7 NESCAC tournament spots, 101 students on NESCAC all-academic team, a women’s rowing ECAC bronze, women’s swimming and volleyball in NESCAC top 4, and a 5th for coed sailing at the Dinghy Nationals.

Annual Fund’s Senior Giving Program reaches 96% participation.
On October 25, Connecticut College will launch the public phase of a $200 million fundraising campaign. We are already more than halfway to our goal.

The impact of these early gifts is visible in renovated classrooms, new student gathering spaces and a fitness center under construction. Other gifts have created new professorships, student scholarships and support for faculty research.

The generosity of alumni, parents and other friends is transforming Connecticut College. This is work that matters deeply, for the success of individual students and for society as a whole. Please join us.

Connecticut College

EXCELLENCE IS A MOVING TARGET. For nearly 100 years, Connecticut College has been providing extraordinary education to students from all walks of life. As the world changes, the College must and will continue to evolve. We must ensure that the education we provide in our second century will be equally extraordinary. We will prepare our students for the unique challenges emerging in society today—and the still unknown challenges of tomorrow.

Through the Campaign for Connecticut College, we will build new connections and collaborations in the arts, humanities, sciences and social sciences. We will expand the scope of our innovative interdisciplinary centers. We will provide faculty with new support for research and teaching. We will equip students to solve complex problems from multiple perspectives.

We will further support academic excellence with four major initiatives:

Internationalization. We will bring international content to every course of study, and we will expand foreign language proficiency. We will create new ways for students to study abroad and new international experiences on campus. In this way, we will ensure that our students are prepared to thrive in a global society.

Residential education. We will renew the campus, renovate student spaces, and develop new educational programming in the residence halls. In a small residential community, students learn by facing and resolving differences, participating in the governance of the College, and developing personal understanding of the Honor Code. Our students will take the skills of citizenship to a new level—a critically important capability in an increasingly complex world.

Science education. Many of society’s most urgent dilemmas exist at the frontiers of science and technology. We will respond to this reality with a new life sciences building that will foster new student-faculty collaborations, more science research and interdisciplinary learning. In this way, we will ensure that our graduates can contribute to society’s most critical decisions, whether as science and technology professionals or engaged, informed citizens.

Financial aid. Connecticut College was founded on the principles of inclusion and access to education. We will invest in financial aid to continue enrolling the best and brightest students regardless of economic background. Our investment will ensure that our student body represents the broadest possible diversity of cultures and life experiences, further enhancing our academic excellence.

Learn more at http://campaign.conncoll.edu