The 2018-19 academic year was another year of milestones. In May, we marked the 100th anniversary of Connecticut College’s very first commencement in 1919, at the same time that we looked toward a new year with record admissions. In an increasingly competitive market for higher education nationally, Connecticut College continues to be successful in recruiting academically talented students from the largest applicant pools in our history. The nearly 6800 applications we received last year yielded an exceptional class. The class of 2023 is very strong, very diverse, very international, and very large, with 508 students from 33 different countries; 27 percent are students of color; and one out of six are the first in their families to attend college.

One of the drivers of this success is Connections, our 21st-century reinvention of the liberal arts. In a survey of the incoming class of 2023, 94 percent said Connections was the main reason they had chosen to come to Conn. The program’s unique pathways are attracting not just new students but also other experts within the higher education community. Last year, professor of history Sarah Queen was invited to Copenhagen Business School to speak about the pathway she directs on Global Capitalism, as part of the Aspen Institute’s Business and Society program. Her talk was so well received that Aspen featured it in their report titled, “Next-Generation Business Leaders,” and invited Professor Queen to participate again this past summer. More recently, in New York City, I had the opportunity to speak about Connections to a very engaged audience of higher education leaders at the Times Higher Education/Wall Street Journal Summit on Student Learning hosted by the New York Institute of Technology.

From the President
This year marks a milestone for Connections, too, as we prepare to graduate the program’s very first cohort of students in the class of 2020. The culminating event is an All-College Symposium, scheduled for November 7, where more than 200 seniors will present the results of their work over the past three years. They will highlight the connections they have made among their courses and research, their jobs and internships, their work in the local communities and around the globe—as long with the questions that animated their choices along the way. The whole campus will be on hand to listen and respond.

I am excited that our first-year and sophomore students will have the chance to learn from our seniors as they begin charting their own journeys through Conn.

The purpose of Connections, of course, is to provide our students with the knowledge, skills, and real-world experience that will make them successful in their lives after Conn. We recently completed a new facility on the ground floor of Fanning Hall to support that goal: the Hale Center for Career Development. Our nationally recognized career program has long been a strength of the College, and this new center makes that strength even more prominent—by putting career learning at the front door of the campus, a location that demonstrates our seriousness about educating students for next-generation success.

The Fanning renovation includes not just a beautiful new suite of career offices, but also three new classrooms, a new slate roof, and an elevator, making all four floors of the building accessible for the first time in its 90-year history. Most important, the new professional space has inspired our staff to create new approaches to career and professional development, with enhanced personalized advising, alumni mentoring, storytelling, networking, and a more generous and flexible internship program. We are enormously grateful to Rob Hale ’88 and his wife Karen Hale for the vision and leadership that made this project possible.

When we talk about the professional development of students, however, there is another great tradition within the liberal arts that we also should keep in mind. I am thinking of athletics. Participation on a team teaches many of the vital skills associated with leadership: collaboration, focus, tenacity, execution, and, above all, resiliency. That is why our strategic plan, Building Strength, makes elevating athletics at Conn a central goal. It is a strategic goal because fully 50 percent of our students compete in varsity and club sports each year. The strength of our athletics programs, in other words, has a direct effect on the strength of our admissions. And our success in recruiting excellent athletes has a direct effect on our competitiveness in the NESCAC.

This annual report offers some perspective on our programs, on our successful scholar-athletes and coaches, and on the opportunity that lies ahead. We are now investing in that opportunity.

Last year, we installed a new and enlarged turf field at the Athletics Complex, again through the generosity of Rob and Karen Hale. We developed a new athletics master plan to target other key facilities projects for the next decade. We created the Camel Athletics Network, our newest vehicle for engaging alumni, parents, and friends in the life of athletics, and named Fran Shields as the inaugural director. And we launched a search for a new director of athletics, which resulted in the appointment of Maureen “Mo” White, a two-time AD, whose tenure began October 1. We look forward to a new generation of Camels flourishing under her leadership.

We couldn’t have done it without your support. This report and the honor roll of donors that follows are one small way of thanking you for your generosity to Connecticut College during this year of milestones. In fact, because of you, 2018-19 was a stellar year for fundraising at Conn. It was a year that witnessed both the most successful giving day challenge and the most successful annual fund ever, at $6.2 million. Not to mention a year when the 50th Reunion class, the class of 1969, broke every record available for participation, attendance, and generosity. We ended the fiscal year having raised nearly $35 million in new gifts and pledges, bringing our campaign total to $114 million in just the second year of the campaign’s silent phase. We also saw our endowment grow to more than $312 million, another record.

This is an enormously promising beginning, but it is, as you know, just the beginning. We need every one of you—alumniae and alumni, parents, grandparents, foundations, and friends—for our ongoing success. With your help, we will ensure that Connecticut College continues to exceed expectations and remains one of the pre-eminent liberal arts institutions in the country. I cannot thank you enough for your inspiration and support.

Katherine Bergeron
President
28
We have 28 varsity programs (15 women’s, 12 men’s, 1 coed)

156
Student-athletes received NESCAC All-Academic honors during the 2018-19 school year

5
NCAA Individual National Champions

15
Teams have qualified for the NCAA Tournament in school history

405
Total All-America or All-America Honorable Mention accolades

1
NESCAC Team Championship in school history (2014 women’s soccer)

10
CoSIDA Academic All-Americans

23
Student-athletes received All-NESCAC honors during the 2018-19 school year

9
Student-athletes have qualified for the Olympics in school history

50%
Of the student body participated in varsity athletics and club sports during the 2018-19 school year

CONN ATHLETICS
BY THE NUMBERS
KEEPER OF THE GOAL
AJ MARCUCCI BECOMES A NATIONAL STAR
Given the recent accolades he’s received, it’s not surprising that soccer star AJ Marcucci ’21 has been an aspiring athlete since age 3. “We had a basketball hoop inside the basement of our house and my dad and I would play all the time,” recalled Marcucci, who grew up in West Chester, Pennsylvania, and whose parents encouraged him to play any and all sports. Now goalkeeper for Conn’s men’s soccer team, the undergraduate was recognized as NESCAC Player of the Year in 2018, and, thanks to his inclusion on the United Soccer Coaches All-America First Team this year, as the best NCAA Division III goalie in the nation.

While he pursued a number of sports in elementary and middle school, when he was in tenth grade, Marcucci’s soccer coach knew that his skill at the net could take him to the next level. “Through middle school, I loved baseball,” Marcucci admitted, “but after success on the soccer pitch, I knew I could have a shot at playing college soccer.”

All Marcucci needed then was to choose a college. And after one visit to Conn, his decision was made. “The team here was so open and accepting,” he said. On top of that, he loved the close-knit community, where “everyone knows everyone and you have good connections with your professors and peers.”

Marcucci, a mathematics major and finance and economics minor, also liked the fact that, at Conn, he would be encouraged to experiment with the College’s wide-ranging curriculum. During his first year, he took a class on hip-hop in the dance department, which stretched his concepts of movement and made him more appreciative of math. “My dad used to be the CFO of the company he worked for, so I have numbers in my genes,” Marcucci explained. “And I like that in math there is a right answer. Which is not the case in hip-hop,” he said with a laugh.

Marcucci is competing at Conn during a period of heightened focus on athletics. The College’s strategic plan, Building on Strength, includes athletics as a major goal, and the current capital campaign makes it a central funding priority. The purpose of elevating athletics is not just to increase the College’s overall competitiveness, but also to strengthen the entire educational program by recognizing the critical role athletic competition plays in a student’s educational, professional, and leadership development.

At Conn, the goalie has become a leader, thanks to the support he has received from teammates and from the recently retired men’s soccer coach Kenny Murphy, who led the team through its best-ever season in 2018.
“Coach Murphy wanted each and every one of his players to be great students first—and great soccer players second,” Marcucci said.

And yet the two expectations are complementary. Discipline on the field tends to encourage discipline in the classroom, because it heightens a student’s awareness of time management, a key component of academic and professional success. “My academics are strong,” Marcucci says, “because I’ve learned how to prioritize: I know what I have to do and when I have time available to do it.”

The end of the season marked a high point for Marcucci, for men’s soccer, and for Camel athletics, as the College hosted the NCAA Division III championship playoffs on home turf for the first time in its history. It was also the first time that those home games were streamed live with commentary on the New England Sports Network for alumni and parents to watch from afar. On campus, the feeling was electric as hundreds of students, faculty, staff, alumni, and trustees turned out on Freeman Field in a glorious show of Camel pride.

“Playing these home games was a thrill that is hard to put into words. The school spirit was incredible,” Marcucci said.

“One of the most satisfying things about playing at Conn is the support we get from our professors, fellow students, staff, and alumni. During the playoffs, it felt like the entire community was there to support us, cheering us on to victory.”

■
The Uncommon Woman

Stephania Lopez ’21 inspires the water polo team to reach new heights.
Being in the water is second nature for women’s water polo captain Stephania Lopez ’21.

“My mom felt that it was important for my brothers and me to be involved in some kind of extracurricular activity,” recalled Lopez, who grew up in Chicago. “She first introduced me to swimming when I was about 2. We would do ‘mommy and me’ classes and I immediately fell in love with being in the water.”

By age 6, she was swimming, dancing, playing piano, and—thanks to her older brother Sebastian—getting a head start on her future athletic career.

“Eventually, Sebastian’s coach gave in. It wasn’t long before Lopez had started her own under-10s water polo team. Now, the captain is leading her fellow Camels to new heights. And she still enjoys the team-oriented nature of the game.

“In swimming, you’ve got one shot—one wrong flip turn or an extra breath can mess up an entire race. That’s why it’s an individual sport—just you and the water,” Lopez said. “With water polo, on the other hand, it’s you and your teammates. You all depend upon one another.”

Lopez’s teammates have helped her reach rarefied air. She was named to the Association of Collegiate Water Polo Coaches Division III All-America Team for the second straight season, and she also led the squad in goals, assists, and steals.

“Goal-setting is a major component to my success,” she explained. “Goals not only serve as indicators of success, but can also help with accountability, motivation, and self-confidence.”

The same traits help Lopez in the classroom, where, as a behavioral neuroscience major, she is studying “humanity not only on the biological level, but also psychologically and sociologically.”

Her curiosity about human behavior, like water polo, stems from her youth.

“Toward the end of my senior year, my AP literature teacher posed the question, ‘What does it mean to be human?’ This deepened my curiosity and helped shape the academic experience I wanted at Conn.”

From her point of view, an athletic career has only benefited Lopez’s academic performance. At the high school level, she often devoted all her time to the pool, whether as a swimmer or a water polo player.

STEPHANIA LOPEZ ’21 has been named to the Collegiate Water Polo Association All-Conference Team twice and was named the league’s Rookie of the Year in 2018. She led this year’s squad in goals (81), assists (30) and steals (35) and ranked second on the team in field blocks (8). In addition, she was named to the conference all-tournament squad for the second straight season.

“There was a point where I identified only with the sports that I participated in, and when I wasn’t practicing, I was a bit lost,” she said. So when applying to college, Lopez sought “an institution where I could explore other interests. Conn has allowed me to do just that,”
which has seen Lopez recognized for all-academic achievement with a GPA above 3.7.

But it’s the team that inspires Lopez the most, and she refers to them as a group of women who empower one another. Head coach Matt Anderson supports this empowerment. Anderson was asked what makes water polo so special. His response: it’s not mainstream, and it requires a little bit of everything.

“The sport is not that common compared to popular sports, so Anderson considered each of us ‘the uncommon woman,’” Lopez said.

So the team motto became: Be the uncommon woman.

Lopez said, “The level of competitiveness, complexity, aggressiveness, endurance, strength, and adaptivity the sport demands is incomparable. We not only push one another, but we also support one another in all that we hope to achieve as players and students.”

After graduating, Lopez hopes to pursue a master’s degree in public health or nutrition. So far, water polo has helped smooth her academic path.

“Athletics has had a huge impact on the kind of student I am,” she said. “Competing on a team has taught me the communication skills needed to collaborate with classmates and professors.”

And water polo, like all sports, Lopez described, is the perfect metaphor for life.

“There’s a chance at growth and redemption in just one game, which makes it so unpredictable and exciting.”
Home Advantage
INVESTING IN COACHES FOR A WINNING FUTURE
According to men’s hockey coach Jim Ward, the recipe for success is simple: “an exceptional team culture.” As Ward put it, “you are only as good as the people who surround you.”

What holds true for a team holds equally true for athletics as a whole, which is why Ward and his fellow coaches are focused on their own continuous improvement. “We are trying to model the same skills we expect from our players: ambition, collaboration, discipline, and the ability to balance your life with your work,” said Ward.

Ward, who has led men’s hockey at Conn for 16 seasons, has twice been named NESCAC Coach of the Year. From his perspective, success in this conference can be as challenging as Division I NCAA competition. And his success has been demonstrable, especially the 2017-18 season, when his team took home all three of NESCAC’s major awards while coming in second in the conference.

Conn’s strategic plan has put athletics in the spotlight with the goal of heightening the visibility and impact of the College’s athletics programs. According to Fran Shields, former director of athletics and the inaugural director of the Camel Athletics Network, hiring and developing excellent coaches is essential to achieving these goals.

“New coaches help push athletes and the department to greater levels of competition. They bring in innovative coaching philosophies and new perspectives on how to recruit the top student-athletes,” Shields said.

“Enter women’s lacrosse coach Lisa Vogeley. Since her arrival, Vogeley has enjoyed sharing coaching experiences with colleagues like Ward and Norm Riker, who has directed the women’s soccer team since 2011.

“Women’s lacrosse is a challenging sport, but I see the strategic vision that has been carved out for athletics as helping propel us to be a real force within the NESCAC,” Vogeley said.

The Port Washington, New York, native joined Conn two seasons ago from Roger Williams University, where she coached the team into a conference powerhouse.

“I want to turn us into perennial contenders in what is the toughest league in the country,” she said.

Vogeley was a Division I lacrosse player herself before trading in the uniform for the whistle. At Conn, she is reminded of her own undergraduate experience—and the potential to create even greater scholar-athletes.

“If you add together superior faculty-student interaction, heightened commitment to student learning, and revitalized facilities—like a newly resurfaced lacrosse field—then you have a formula for winning,” she said. “And that’s the case whether you’re talking about athletics or academic research or the arts.”

Since her arrival, Vogeley has enjoyed sharing coaching experiences with colleagues like Ward and Norm Riker, who has directed the women’s soccer team since 2011.

“We are always talking about the focus we need to make our programs successful,” Riker said. “As coaches, educators, and mentors, we have to be learning, listening, and asking questions all the time in order to keep improving our own game,” he added.
“Thus, the importance of bringing in new coaches with new ideas.”

Riker was drawn to Conn not just because the first soccer camp he ever attended as a boy was hosted at the College but also because he had firsthand knowledge of the special kind of students the school produces. His wife, Gabrielle Antoniadis Riker, is a 1989 graduate of the College.

Riker is dedicated to cultivating the same kind of students, and getting to know his players as people is a critical part of his effectiveness.

“Yes, developing coaching skills and game tactics is part of success,” he said. But even more meaningful are those moments “when we guide students along the rocky road of life. I am always trying to find strategies that will help them not only step confidently onto the field but also look confidently into their professional lives. That is the larger mission.”

And that, again, requires coaches to invest in their own improvement. Ward knows this firsthand. Even as a veteran with more than 30 years’ experience from prep school to Division I, he decided to work with a consultant this year who could help him develop new competitive strategies and new ways to communicate more efficiently within his team, in order to help his athletes build greater confidence.

As a result, Ward said, “we had a great season. We ultimately created more trust within the group, and as a team we are more tightly knit than ever before.”

Relative newbies like Vogeley are always looking to improve, too. “I might have a certain philosophy,” Vogeley said, “but since we are competing in the toughest Division III conference in the country, I also need to listen so everyone can contribute their ideas.”

So what is Vogeley’s mantra for success? “Motivate, inspire, mentor, and have fun in the process.”

When asked about their proudest moments in recent seasons, the coaches strike a balance between gameday victories and the smaller moments that go toward creating a stronger team.

Women’s soccer secured the NESCAC championship in 2014 and reached the NCAA Tournament in 2014 and 2016. For Riker, who has led his players to new academic and athletic heights, these were milestones. But the best times can also be “the subtle ones—the moments when we share a meal or have easy conversation,” he said.

“I’m proud of our team culture— they work out together, eat together, study together—and our team GPA of 3.6 is a sign that it’s working.”

In the future, Riker hopes to see the team win another NESCAC championship and believes a Division III national title could be in the cards.

In just two seasons, Vogeley’s players have also come a long way, but she believes that even greater things lie ahead.

“For us, winning is key,” she said. “I’m proud of how hard my team has competed against nationally ranked programs. It portends a bright future.”
Giving Back

CONN ATHLETES MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THEIR COMMUNITY
Last September, rower Chelsea Dougherty '20 and her teammates pulled 217 pieces of foam, 115 plastic bottles, 35 pieces of rope, and one tackle box out of the Thames River in New London. The year before, they literally hauled up a kitchen sink. “Unfortunately, there’s a lot of trash along the coast,” Dougherty said.

All told, the rowers and their coaches removed more than 1,000 pounds of garbage from the river, the riverbank, and the shores of Mamacoke Island, as they have every year since 2014. Each fall, the men’s and women’s rowing teams participate in the Ocean Conservancy’s International Coastal Cleanup Day, through which people around the world remove trash from beaches and waterways and work to raise awareness about the devastating impact of marine debris.

“As coaches, we believe it is important to give back to the environment that we consider our playing field,” said Eva Kovach, who is in her 20th season as head coach of the women’s rowing team. “The athletes are learning about environmental stewardship: they are getting their hands dirty; they are bonding with their teammates; and they are making a difference in the place where we live.”

Participating in athletics enhances a student’s ability to contribute positively to society. Camel athletes, in fact, have set new standards of citizenship for NESCAC through their involvement in a variety of social causes.

“Athletics at Conn is about much more than just what happens on the playing field—it’s about developing young people into responsible citizens and leaders,” said Fran Shields, athletic director emeritus and inaugural director of the Camel Athletics Network. “Athletes understand the value of working together for a shared goal, and athletics provides a unique opportunity to model positive values, like integrity, respect, and a commitment to others.”

To achieve greater distinction and integration of student learning, Conn is committed to creating experiences outside of the classroom that extend intellectual enrichment, build a stronger sense of community, and prepare students for meaningful lives and careers. Athletics is an important part of this goal.

As such, Conn’s athletes and coaches are involved in a variety of community learning and civic engagement projects throughout the year that enhance the student experience, from promoting healthy exercise and eating habits among local youth to teaching young people with special needs to speed skate, as members of the women’s hockey team have done for nearly 20 years in partnership with the Special Olympics. Most notably, Camel athletes have played leadership roles in promoting Green Dot, the College’s sexual violence prevention program. Implemented at Conn in 2010, Green Dot is a national initiative through which faculty, staff, and students are trained in bystander intervention techniques to help prevent sexual violence, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. The College has been nationally recognized for its efforts and has offered assistance to
other institutions seeking to implement a Green Dot program, including the United States Air Force. The men’s ice hockey team has hosted an annual Green Dot game since 2012. Members of the team don special green jerseys, and a Green Dot logo is emblazoned in the ice. Forward Chris Adamsons ’22 started working as a peer educator in the Office of Sexual Violence Prevention and Advocacy, which administers Green Dot, after learning about the program from his teammates.

“Green Dot is more than just an idea; it’s a way of life for our team and our community here at Conn,” he said. “It holds us accountable while giving us purpose in being part of something bigger than ourselves. It’s who we are and what we stand for.”

Conn athletes are also working to make a difference in the lives of the community’s youngest members. Many participate in the student-run Project Kids, Books, Athletics, which promotes reading and physical fitness with the children of New London, and in ENRICH, an extended learning time program for students from New London’s Bennie Dover Jackson Middle School that brings the students to campus for homework help and after-school enrichment activities.

Last year, club hockey player Cameron Segal ’20 was inspired by what he was learning as part of his Cities and Schools Pathway to create a Learn to Skate program to introduce the sport of hockey to middle school students who have recently immigrated to the United States. Segal grew up playing hockey, but because of his tan complexion, he was often teased when on the ice. Last winter, when a black player for the NHL’s Washington Capitals was taunted with chants of “basketball,” Segal developed the following animating question to guide his Pathway experience: Why is hockey considered a white sport? From that, his Learn to Skate program was born.

“I just love seeing the kids out on the ice, how much they enjoy it, and how many people come to help,” said Segal, who partnered with Dayton Arena staff, the College’s Education Department faculty and students, Bennie Dover Jackson teacher Rocio Tinoco ’17, and members of the club hockey and figure skating teams to launch the program, which brings about 30 newly arrived and dual-language middle schoolers to campus to skate several times each semester.

Club hockey player Anne Lamarre ’19 volunteered during several sessions last winter, helping the students—many of whom had never before been inside an ice rink—get comfortable on skates. “It’s more than just something to keep them active; it’s helping them discover a strength they didn’t know they had or overcome a fear—helping them feel empowered,” she said. “And what I love the most is seeing the joy on their faces when they succeed.”

“Athletics at Conn is about much more than just what happens on the playing field—it’s about developing young people into responsible citizens and leaders,” said Fran Shields. “Athletes understand the value of working together for a shared goal, and athletics provides a unique opportunity to model positive values, like integrity, respect, and a commitment to others.”
Club Sports

Club, intramural, and recreational programs bolster the student experience.
Expanding our club sports program and increasing student engagement has been an important focus for several years,” said Geoff Norbert, assistant dean for student engagement and new student programs.

Progress on this front has been impressive. More than 400 students currently participate in club programs that range from ice hockey and rugby to baseball and golf. One of our recent additions, Outdoor Adventures, has been a runaway bestseller with students. The program, which initially began in the spring of 2018, provides a number of ever-expanding trips and outings that range from weeklong camping excursions to kayaking and surfing. The multiple kayaking trips have been so popular that the program forged a partnership with New England Science and Sailing, a nonprofit that has collaborated on several trips near campus.

For a passionate environmentalist and Maine native like Anna Laprise ’20, the program was a perfect way to continue enjoying her love of the outdoors in college and to connect with students who shared her interests.

“I’ve spent my entire life backpacking, camping, hiking, biking, kayaking, and surfing, and what I love about this program is that it really promotes a sense of community among Conn students and teaches a real respect for the environment,” Laprise said.

Norbert added: “Students tell us regularly that joining a club sport creates a greater sense of campus unity and helps them meet new people. The skills they

Reer Hill ’20 developed a passion for riding horses as a teenager on the rolling, sunbaked prairies of Colorado Springs, Colorado. When the time came to start exploring colleges, it just so happened that Hill’s then-riding coach, Alexandra Mavelli Doyon, was a 2007 graduate of Conn and encouraged Hill to consider moving east.

“Coach Mavelli spoke so highly of Conn and the equestrian team that I had to see it for myself,” Hill recalled.

“I loved the campus and the people I met when I visited, and the equestrian team’s presence played a huge part in my decision to come here.”

A member of the Connecticut Region of the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association, the team competes against both varsity and club teams, and practices just north of Conn’s campus at the Mystic Valley Hunt Club in Gales Ferry, Connecticut, where the College houses its eight show horses that have been gifted by generous alumni and other donors.

“We invite students of all skill levels to participate in the sport, so I’ve been lucky enough to watch total beginners join the team having never ridden a horse before and to see them blossom as equestrians and become some of our best competitors,” said Hill, who is co-captain of the team.

The College’s strategic plan calls for increased athletic competitiveness. It also calls for enhancing the health and well-being of all students by creating robust club and intramural sports, and recreational programs.

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acquire—and important life lessons—benefit them at Conn and beyond.”

While Hill participates in a sport she’s long enjoyed, for others, club programs afford students the opportunity to explore something completely new.

For Rosalinda Pineda ’20, running track had been a big part of her life before coming to Conn, but an injury forced her to quit, leaving a void that she filled by joining the women’s rugby club team. Known for its welcoming attitude, the rugby club competes in the New England Wide Collegiate Rugby Conference, and participates in both the fall and spring seasons.

“Before Conn, I didn’t know much about rugby,” said Pineda. “But I was curious about the sport, and the team was so friendly that I decided to give it a shot. It helped me fill that competitive void.”

Club sports is about more than just competition. It is about providing students with experiences that enhance classroom learning and prepare them for meaningful lives and careers.

“Athletics is a mission-critical component of this institution,” said Fran Shields, the inaugural director of the Camel Athletics Network. A former lacrosse coach and Katherine Wenk Christoffers ’45 Director of Athletics, Shields has seen firsthand that athletic competition—both varsity and club sports—prepares students to be successful.

“A healthy student body is fully equipped to meet the rigors of a liberal arts education. We want the habits they develop in college to be lifelong so that they are ready for life after Conn.”
The Camel Athletics Network

FRAN SHIELDS, FORMER DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS, TAKES ON A NEW ROLE AS THE INAUGURAL DIRECTOR OF THE CAMEL ATHLETICS NETWORK
Connecticut College: Why are you excited about leading the Camel Athletics Network?

Fran Shields: Because it gives me an opportunity to share my love of Camel Athletics and to talk with alumni and parents about the importance of investing in the future of the program. Support is critical to helping us achieve our ambitious goals, and I know that our alumni are excited about the plans we have to transform athletics at Conn. I see this as a terrific opportunity to build on our strengths and to take the program to a whole new level.

CC: What are the goals of CAN?

FS: First and foremost, the mission of the Camel Athletics Network is simple—we want to engage our alumni, parents, and friends in the life of Camel athletics. We plan to do this in the following ways: by expanding regional and on-campus programming; by enhancing our communications about athletics; and by providing alumni, parents, and friends with ways to invest in the future of athletics and see the impact they can have on our students. Our ultimate goal is to build Camel pride among all of our constituents.

CC: What programs do you plan to implement in the first year?

FS: In October, we’re launching a series of CAN events in New York City, Washington, D.C., and Boston to present the new athletics strategic plan and to share how the College is investing in Camel athletics, including improvements to our programs and facilities, and enhancements to resources for our student-athletes. We will continue a series of professional networking events to connect former and current athletes, and we will organize programs and events on campus that coincide with our various athletic competitions, milestone celebrations, and events like Fall Weekend. Finally, we will launch the Camel Athletic Fund to ensure that our talented student-athletes and coaches have the resources they need to compete at the highest level.

CC: Why is athletics so important to the College?

FS: Competitive athletics is a key driver of the student experience. It unites the entire Conn family and provides students with important leadership opportunities. More than a third of our students play a varsity sport, so making sure that they experience the same level of excellence on the field as they do in the classroom is critical.

CC: Why do you think Conn’s athletic experience creates such strong bonds?

FS: There’s something about being part of a team that stays with you forever. The bonds that you form with a group of people—through wins, losses, and everything in between—are lifelong. I hear this all the time when I talk to former athletes.

CC: What are the plans for the future?

FS: A competitive athletic program is central to our admission efforts, as it is a point of pride to play varsity sports in the NESCAC. So our plan is ambitious: to become more competitive, which will raise the national profile of Camel Athletics and Connecticut College. We can do this with robust support for our students, our coaches, and the development of our facilities. I look forward to seeing what we can achieve together.
Financial Summary | Fiscal Year 2018-19

Connecticut College continues to see a balanced operating budget thanks to prudent financial planning. The College continues to see strong support from alumni, parents, friends, and foundations thanks to the excitement generated by the new curriculum.

Revenue Overview (fiscal year ending June 30, 2019)

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<tr>
<th>Revenue</th>
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<tr>
<td>Parents, Friends, Community</td>
<td>13.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Fees (net of aid)</td>
<td>74.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Endowment</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual Fund</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants &amp; Contracts</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Expense Allocation (as of June 30, 2019)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expense by Function</th>
<th>Allocation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Instruction</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institutional</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auxiliary</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Services</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research and Public Service</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>47.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Endowment Portfolio Market Value (as of June 30, 2019)

- Global Public Equity: 47.7%
- Private Investment: 18.2%
- Defensive Equity: 9.8%
- Fixed Income: 8.8%
- Diversifiers: 13.9%
- Other: 1.6%

Financial Summary:
- Budget: $105.8 million
- Comprehensive Fee: $69,970
- Endowment Distribution: $14.3 million
- Annual Fund: $6.1 million
- Financial Aid: $43.3 million
- Enrollment: 1,794 full-time undergraduates
- Student/Faculty Ratio: 9:1
In 2018-19, Connecticut College raised $35 million in new gifts and commitments, marking the second best fundraising year in the College’s history. This success, made possible by 7,150 donors, includes alumni, parents, students, friends, faculty, and staff, enables us to put the liberal arts into action. To all those listed in the following pages, please accept our sincerest thanks.

- Deceased

### Honor Roll of Giving

**Ad Astra Society**

The Ad Astra Society honors donors whose gifts and commitments amount to $1 million or more over the course of their lifetime. Ad Astra donors are commemorated in the Ad Astra Garden at the top of Tempel Green. Created in 1996 by Emeritus Trustee Susan Eckert Lynch ’62 in honor of her mother, the garden features stone benches surmounted by a sundial. The names of Ad Astra members are engraved on the benches as a permanent tribute to their extraordinary generosity and dedication to the College.

### Sun Circle

The Sun Circle recognizes donors who have supported Connecticut College for at least 10 years. The Sun Circle’s commitment with the College, serving as an inspiration for all who strive to strengthen the future of Connecticut College.

**Raymond and Carmen Debbane P’09 ’13**

**Deborah Dearborn ’67**

**Judson M. Dayton ’80**

**Nathan* and Joanne Toor Cummings * ’50**

**Mary Williams Crozier*’**

**Nancy H. Camp* ’53**

**Bradford and Jane Brown P’12 ’15 ’20**

**Timothy M. Armstrong ’93**

**Jerry and Carolyn McGonigle**

**Nancy Marshall Athey ’72 and Sarah Pithouse Becker* ’27**

**T. Wilson Eglin, Jr. ’86**

**Karla Heurich Harrison* ’28 P’54 GP’80**

**Cathy Frank Halstead ’69**

**Edward Goodnow and Dianne**

**Elizabeth Gilbert Fortune* ’40**

**DeFred Folts III ’82**

**Barbara Hogate Ferrin* ’43 and Allan**

**Carol Jaffa Feinberg ’49 GP’19**

**T. Wilson Eglin, Jr. ’86**

**Jane Cadwell Lott* ’36 and Thomas L. Lott*’**

**Virginia Reed Levick ’59**

**Betsey* and Rachel Larrabee*’**

**Elizabeth Stuart Kruidenier* ’48**

**Barbara Zaccheo Kohn ’72 and A. Eugene**

**Lucy Eaton Holcombe* ’46**

**Barbara Blaustein**

**Barbara Henderson* ’41**

**Lucy Marsh Haskell* ’19**

**Judith Tindal Opatrny ’72**

**Pamela D. Zilly ’75**

**Jean Curtin Tempel ’65**

**Ronald P. Lynch* and Susan Eckert Lynch ’62**

**Jane Armstrong Krueger ’73 P’04**

**Joann Murphy Bezzant ’60**

**Robin Frost Bessin ’67**

**Diane Miller Bessell ’59**

**Patricia A. Bernard ’82**

**Miriam S. Berberian ’49**

**Janet Blackwell Bent ’59**

**B. Richard and Mary Roth Benioff ’56 P’87**

**Sharon Bell ’74**

**James E. Astrove ’82 P’10**

**Gail Turner Arcari* ’60**

**Joan Barkon Antell ’55**

**Linda Siegel Anstendig ’62**

**Patricia Mottron Anderson, Ph.D. ’53 P’88**

**Lois Siegel Armstrong, ’68**

**Jean Bent* ’50**

**Gail Turner Arcari* ’60**

**Mary Halvorsen ’80**

**Lyn A. Halvorsen ’82**

**Michael and Martha Brooker P’72**

**Nancy Eldredge Chellgren ’52**

**Andrew H. Chait ’82**

**Jerrold B. Carrington ’79**

**Kathryn A. Carlson ’88**

**Miriam Brooks Butterworth* ’40 GP’05**

**Kathleen Ackerman ’77**

**Susan Grove ’58**

**Elsa Allyn Soderberg ’67**

**Virginia Berman Slaughter* ’48 P’77**

**Elsa-Ann Soderberg ’67**

**Susan Ockert ’50 P’79 GP’16**

**Charles Woodward* ’59**

**Anne H. Woldman* ’64**

**Roman* and Tatiana Weller*’**

**The Zachs Family**

**Charles Woodward* ’59**

**The Zachs Family**
Morton F. Plant Society
Gifts of $50,000 - $99,999

President’s Circle
Gifts of $25,000 - $49,999

Harkness Circle
Gifts of $10,000 - $24,999

The Laurels
Gifts of $2,500 - $9,999

Turned recognition is offered to recent graduates and students who qualify: alumni who graduated within the last 10 to 14 years are invited to join The Laurels at $500, alumni who graduated within the last 4 to 9 years at $250, and current students at $100.
The Alumni Association Board of Directors

The Alumni Association Board of Directors is comprised of 26 alumni members, with geographic representation spanning the globe and class year participation ranging from the Class of 1957 to the Class of 2019. In 2018-19, led by the Advancement & Alumni Communications Committee of the board, all 26 members made a contribution to the Connecticut College Fund, achieving 100% board participation — a goal of the organization each year.