IT’S HARD TO BELIEVE that we are approaching the end of the year. Planning is already underway for the fall of 2010: the Showcase Committee is hard at work planning our day of activities on **Sunday, September 19**. I am talking with potential lecturers for the next academic year’s program, and we’re already beginning to discuss publicity. But there’s still a lot going on this spring: Michael Lankester’s course on the English musical tradition, Tom Filburn on alternative energy sources, and Tracey Wilson’s series of four sessions on the history of West Hartford. We are particularly looking forward to the visit of Malcolm and Johanna Morrison to Fridays at the Mortensen in April, and to the sessions by Joe Voelker and Clara Fang in May and June. Dean Voelker will be giving two talks on the poet William Butler Yeats — one in Fridays at the Mortensen and one in Tuesdays at Duncaster. I recommend you try to attend both: the first will deal with Yeats’s early life and the second with his relationship with Maude Gonne. Catherine Stevenson will be the April guest for Tuesdays at Duncaster — on E. M. Forster’s *A Passage to India*. Catherine tells me that she and Dianne Harrison are planning a President’s College course next spring on Charles Dickens’s *Our Mutual Friend*, one of Dickens’s most intriguing novels. I should perhaps also mention that Willie Anthony Waters and I are in touch about a one-day program on Puccini this fall, similar to the one on Verdi that he gave recently to much acclaim.

March has been a pretty exciting month for the President’s College. Over 70 people attended the session on women’s health that we presented along with the Hartford College for Women Reunion Committee on March 5. Wendell Wallach was a stimulating speaker as our guest on March 12. Louis Manzione’s talk on digital health, in the Tuesdays at Duncaster series, was well attended and well received. And the reports that I am getting from attendees at Robert Churchill’s course on Minutemen are full of superlatives.

Last month, I announced that Malcolm Morrison and I are planning our second **London theatre trip**, for **November 12-19, 2010**. Expressions of interest in participating are coming in thick and fast. Let us know if you are interested. The trip will likely include four plays, backstage visits, visiting lecturers, and lots of good food). If you’re interested, let us know.

HUMPHREY TONKIN
University of Hartford Community Day

Saturday, April 17, 2010
University of Hartford
11:00 a.m. — 3:00 p.m.

On the occasion of the 175th anniversary of his birth,
the 125th anniversary of the publication of *Huckleberry Finn*
and the 100th anniversary of his death

**The President’s College Meets Mark Twain**

Drop by our four-hour marathon reading of excerpts from
Mark Twain’s immortal novel *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*
and other works by this famed Hartford author

*We are looking for volunteers to read short passages from Twain’s works*

*Call us at 860-768-4269 or write pcollege@ hartford.edu*

On the University of Hartford’s Community Day, the University welcomes
the community to campus for a day of free activities for all members of the family.
This year, Community Day will feature more than 50 events, attractions, and exhibits,
including petting zoo, old-time trolley, bounce houses, performances, bike rodeo — and
the President’s College’s own Mark Twain reading!
Fridays at the Mortensen:
Malcolm and Johanna Morrison

Eat dinner with the President’s College community, meet friends, exchange ideas, at Fridays at the Mortensen, the monthly events organized by the President’s College! These get-togethers combine a friendly atmosphere with intellectual stimulation. Sessions are held at the Mortensen, the University’s main library, with a reception at 5:45, dinner at 6:00, and a speaker after dinner.

On Friday, April 16, Malcolm and Johanna Morrison will join us to talk about the life of the actor and teacher in Britain and America. Note the changed date for this event.

Malcolm Morrison, University Professor of Theatre and former dean of The Hartt School, has had an extensive national and international career as director and educator. His directing includes work at Hartford Stage, Cleveland Playhouse, the Alliance Theatre (Atlanta), the Alley Theatre (Houston), Denver Center Theater, Dallas Theatre Centre, and the Monomoy Theatre. He was Artistic Director of the North Carolina Shakespeare Festival and has directed at the Utah Shakespearean Festival and the Colorado Shakespeare Festival—where he won the Critics Circle Award as Best Director for his production of Love’s Labours Lost. He has directed and taught in Britain, Australia, Russia, China, Austria, Czech Republic, Sweden, Malta, Jamaica, Singapore, and France, and is author of two books, Clear Speech and Classical Acting, and editor of Voice and Speech in the Theatre. He was dean at North Carolina School of the Arts, Director of the National Theatre Conservatory in Denver, and Head of Theatre and Dance at the University of Wisconsin in Milwaukee.

Johanna Morrison began her career as actress and vocal coach in England. She holds a B Ed degree with distinction from the Victoria University of Manchester and is an associate of the Drama Board of Great Britain and the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art. After appearing on television and in regional theatre in England, she moved to the United States, where she has appeared at the North Carolina Shakespeare Festival, Virginia Museum Theatre, Theatre by the Sea (Portsmouth, NH), Hartford Stage, Indiana Repertory Theatre, Denver Center, Milwaukee Repertory Theatre, and Milwaukee Chamber Theatre. She has acted in many episodes of Perry Mason, Murder She Wrote, and other long running television series. Her work in film has included Critical Condition, Double Exposure, and The Queen’s Horse. She was vocal coach for Universal Pictures in England and has taught at the North Carolina School of the Arts and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Friday, April 16, 5:45-8:30 p.m. $40 (Fellows $30). Includes dinner.
FAQ

What do I do if the University closes?
Closings are announced on WTIC - 1080 AM/96.5 FM, WRCH - 100.5 FM, and WWUH - 91.3 FM. Local television stations use automated systems with limited choices for colleges and universities. Currently, Channel 3 (WFSB) is the only area station that airs specific opening and closing times. So please follow up on any announcements that you see on Channels 8 (WTNH) or 30 (WVIT) by checking the University’s Web site (www.hartford.edu) or by calling 860.768.4100.

Parking on Campus
If, as a Fellow of the President’s College, you have been issued a parking permit, please hang it on the inside rearview mirror of your vehicle whenever you park on campus. You may park in any legal and unreserved space in any of the faculty, student or visitor lots at any time of the day, but if you park in a student or faculty lot without displaying the permit you will be ticketed. If you run into problems or have questions, please call the President’s College at 860.768.4269 or the Office of Public Safety at 860.768.7985.

Fridays at the Mortensen: Programs for May and June

We have some exciting programs coming up in Fridays at the Mortensen in May and June.

On Friday, May 7. Joseph Voelker, Dean of Arts and Sciences, will discuss the young W. B. Yeats — one of two talks on different periods of Yeats’s life that he will be offering for the President’s College in May (see p.8, Tuesdays at Duncaster, May 18, for the other).

Joseph Voelker received his AB Degree in 1969 from Franklin and Marshall College. After earning his PhD from Yale University, he taught English at his alma mater for the next 24 years. He became Associate Dean at F&M in 1998, and came to the University of Hartford in 2003 as Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. In 2007-08 he served as Interim Provost. He has taught seminars, presented at conferences, and published on the work of James Joyce in a number of scholarly periodicals, including The Journal of Modern Literature and The James Joyce Quarterly.

On Friday, June 4, we will be joined by engineer Clara Fang, who specializes in the problems of traffic engineering — something that we don’t often think about but that lies behind every daily journey that we make by car.

Clara Fang, assistant professor of civil, environmental and biomedical engineering in the College of Engineering, Technology and Architecture, has an impressive portfolio. She completed her undergraduate work in southern China; earned master’s degrees in Hong Kong and British Columbia; and received her PhD from one of the most prestigious engineering schools in the United States.

Fang is a leading expert in the rapidly-developing field of intelligent transportation systems. “Although it doesn’t seem like it when you’re sitting in a traffic jam, there’s a clear logic to the way traffic flows,” Fang says.

“We can simulate traffic flows in great detail on a computer, evaluate alternatives, and use advanced technology — like intelligent road signs and vehicle guidance systems — to relieve congestion and make traveling safer.”

Fang is currently working with the United States Department of Transportation and the National Research Council to improve transportation systems across the country. “The University and College have been very supportive of my research, and I’m grateful for that,” Fang says.

She also gets her students involved in projects on the state and local level. “The students have won praise for their work from community leaders and professional engineers and they feel great about being able to make a difference in the world,” Fang says.

Dr. Fang’s program will be the last event in Fridays at the Mortensen this season. Our monthly programs will begin again in September.

Fridays at the Mortensen. Friday, May 7, and Friday, June 4, 5:45 – 8:30 p.m. Each session $40 (Fellows $30), including dinner.
Alternative Energy Sources, Thermodynamics and Power

Energy policy is driven by science, technology, and political choices. What can we do to reduce fossil fuel use through alternative power plant schemes? How can we get the science right and how can we balance costs and benefits? We will try to answer these questions by using Connecticut energy policy as an example. Connecticut electric rates are driven by wholesale market factors, fuel costs, and the DPUC. We will examine the past and present types of fuel used for power generation, and address the ability of various renewable energy sources to provide significant impact in Connecticut’s electric supply mix. Among the topics to be discussed will be power plant types (combined cycle, simple cycle), fuels (coal, natural gas, nuclear) and all types of renewable energy (biofuels, solar and wind).

Tom Filburn, director of the Connecticut NASA Space Grant Consortium at the University of Hartford, obtained a BSc and MS in Mechanical Engineering and a PhD in Chemical Engineering from the University of Connecticut. He has worked for Northeast Utilities, United Nuclear Corporation and United Technologies (UTC). He has received practical experience in both nuclear and liquid metal combustion power systems, and his last assignment before joining the University was with the Space, Land and Sea group at Hamilton Sundstrand (UTC division), where he performed research on regenerative life support technologies for NASA. His research interests lie in the area of energy, sustainable design, greenhouse gas control and environmental design. He has published in Industrial and Engineering Chemical Research and the Fuels Journal of the American Chemical Society and holds six US patents for chemicals and methods to condition enclosed habitats.

Wednesdays, April 7, 14, 21, 4:00–5:30 p.m. $60 (Fellows $40). Please note the changed time!

Land of Hope and Glory: The English Musical Tradition—Michael Lankester

From the flowering of keyboard music in Elizabethan England, the development of the Elizabethan air in the work of Dowland and Campion, and the emergence of a distinctive English choral tradition at the hands of Tallis and Byrd — through Purcell’s creation of the English opera, the arrival of Italian opera and its parody the ballad opera — through the establishment of the oratorio and the anthem in the 18th and 19th century — the distinctive English musical tradition leads to the symphonic music of Elgar, the musical nostalgia associated with the incorporation of folksong by Vaughan Williams and Holst, the vocal compositions of Benjamin Britten, and on to such contemporary composers as Tavener and Ades. This course will look at the common threads that link English music over the ages and seek to situate the English musical tradition in a larger context. The course will be divided into four parts: The Golden Age (the period from Queen Elizabeth to James II), The Land Without Music (from the death of Purcell to the Victorian era), Land of Hope and Glory (the Victorians and Edwardians), and The Twentieth Century and beyond (from George V to Elizabeth II).
Other Events:

(Continued from page 5)

sion features Paul Siegel on gay rights and free speech (Wilde Auditorium, Tues., April 27, 7:30 p.m.), and Peterson Toscano on transgressing gender in the Bible (Wilde Auditorium, Wed., April 28, 7:30 p.m.). Sessions are free and open to the public.

The New Social Entrepreneurism is the subject of this year’s Ellsworth Lecture, on Tuesday, April 6, featuring Blake Mycoskie. Mycoskie is founder and chief shoe giver of TOMS Shoes, Inc. TOMS’s simple promise to give a pair of new shoes to children in need around the world with every pair sold is revolutionizing the way consumers shop. This one-for-one business model has encouraged consumers to purchase and give more than.

(Continued on page 7)

The session on April 26 will interrupt the sequence to focus on Benjamin Britten’s massive and moving War Requiem, to coincide with the Hartt School’s performance of that work at St. Joseph’s Cathedral, Hartford, on Sunday, May 2, under the direction of Christopher Zimmerman (for details go to http://harttweb.hartford.edu/events/details.aspx?sid=2557. The first performance of the requiem, in May 1962, took place in the newly restored Coventry Cathedral, destroyed by German bombing at the end of World War II. The War Requiem intertwines the traditional setting of the Latin mass with the war poems of Wilfred Owen, himself a victim of World War I.

Michael Lankester, who served for fifteen years as Music Director of the Hartford Symphony Orchestra, combines an international conducting career with work as composer, arranger and commentator in opera, theatre and broadcasting. He has worked as guest conductor with major orchestras in Britain and North America, including the Pittsburgh, Toronto, City of Birmingham, and London Symphonies, the Cleveland Orchestra, and the Royal Philharmonic. As Music Director of the National Theatre (UK), he worked with such distinguished directors as Jonathan Miller and Franco Zeffirelli. He collaborated extensively with Laurence Olivier, working with him on several television productions. He served as conductor for the inaugural production of Tom Stoppard’s play Every Good Boy Deserves Favour (with music by André Previn) at London’s Mermaid Theatre. He studied at the Royal College of Music with Sir Adrian Boult and has had close professional collaborations with Benjamin Britten, William Walton, and Michael Tippett.

Mondays April 12, 19, 26, May 3, 10, 4:30–6:00 p.m. $120 (Fellows $90)

The War Requiem: Sunday, May 2

At St. Joseph’s Cathedral at 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, May 2, the formidable talents of The Hartt School Choruses (Edward Bolkovac, director), Hartt Symphony Orchestra (Christopher Zimmerman, director), Connecticut Children’s Chorus (Stuart Younse, Director), and Hartford Chorale (Richard Coffey, director), combine to perform Benjamin Britten’s War Requiem, conducted by Christopher Zimmerman.

Soloists - Jonita Lattimore, soprano, William Hite tenor, and David Murray, baritone - join the more than 300 vocalists and instrumentalists for this massive work. Marked by juxtaposition of Wilfred Owen’s poetry and the text of the Latin Mass, the Requiem presents in strong and poignant terms the brutality and, for Britten, futility of war.

Maestro Zimmerman says of the piece, “The sheer scale of the musical forces and the diversity of the orchestral palette ... make this piece an event.” He goes on to say, “This piece is about us and our lack of answers to the perennial problem of war and peace. At the front of the score Britten quotes Wilfred Owen in a phrase, the last line of which is “all a poet can do is warn”. With his War Requiem, Britten as a composer is surely asking that the least we can do is listen.”

Reservations: $50 advanced reservation, premium reserved seating; $25 advanced reservation, preferred reserved seating; $20 suggested donation at the door, general seating. Limited seating available; advanced reservations strongly encouraged: 860.768.4228 or 1.800.274.8587
**Other Events:**

(Continued from page 6)

140,000 pairs of new shoes to children in need in just three years. The lecture is free and open to the public, but please request tickets in advance at 860-768-4228.

This semester’s Cardin Reading Series continues on Tuesday, April 6, when poet F. Daniel Rzicznek, of Bowling Green State University, Ohio, will read from his collections *Divination Machine* (Parlor Press, 2009), *Neck of the World* (Utah State University Press, 2007) and *Cloud Tablets* (Kent State University Press, 2006). Also in Wilde Auditorium at 12:15 p.m. All sessions are free and open to the public.

**Writer Charles Beauclerk** will be visiting the University on Thursday, April 29th to give a talk in Wilde Auditorium at 12:15 p.m. All sessions are free and open to the public.

**President’s College**

(Continued on page 8)

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**“Look After Liberty”: The History of West Hartford**

In May 1711 the Connecticut General Court granted permission for the establishment of a new parish on the western edge of the village of Hartford – the first formal recognition of what was to become the Town of West Hartford. From its beginnings as an agricultural community to its status today as one of the inner ring suburbs of the City of Hartford, it has seen enormous changes and momentous events. Town historian Tracey Wilson will guide us through this rich history, drawing on the collections of the Noah Webster House and the West Hartford Historical Society, and taking us to visit some of the sites that she discusses. Learn how Hall High School and Conard High School got their names and who the Bishop of Bishop’s Corner was, examine pots made in West Hartford of West Hartford clay, and discover the “other” Thomas Jefferson, who was known as “The Handsomest Horse in the World” and ran at West Hartford’s Charter Oak racetrack. While West Hartford has its unique features, it is also representative of the development of communities in Connecticut.

The course will be based at the Noah Webster House in West Hartford, which houses a rich collection of artifacts from various periods of West Hartford history. Tracey Wilson teaches history at Conard High School in West Hartford and has also taught at Trinity College and St. Joseph College. She holds bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Trinity College and a PhD from Brown University. Her publications include studies of women workers at Colt’s and Travelers, and of the Connecticut woman’s suffrage movement, and frequent columns in local newspapers. In addition to her role as Town Historian of West Hartford, she serves as an advisor to the Noah Webster House.

**Thursdays, May 6, 13, 20, 27, 4:00-6:00 p.m. $70 (Fellows $50)**

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**MAKE A DATE WITH CELEBRATE! WEST HARTFORD**

**Celebrate! West Hartford** is a highly attended, annual tradition that promotes, embraces and celebrates community life.

Attracting well over 30,000 people each year, Celebrate! also provides festival attendees with a wide range of wholesome family activities – an award winning juried arts & crafts show, great food, entertainment, games, rides, a certified 5K road race – as the saying goes, “something for everyone”.

The event offers civic, service, sports, schools and charitable organizations a way to increase community awareness and an opportunity to raise funds for their worthy causes.

**June 12 & 13, 2010**

**ONCE AGAIN THE PRESIDENT’S COLLEGE WILL BE REPRESENTED. SIGN UP NOW TO HELP RUN OUR BOOTH. CALL 860-768-4269.**
The Deeds Symposium on April 26 will feature Todd Buchholz, former director of economic policy at the White House, a managing director of the $15 billion Tiger hedge fund, and an award-winning economics professor at Harvard University. He will target his entertaining remarks to the cutting edge of economics, finance, and business strategy. The lecture is free and open to the public, but please request tickets in advance at 860-768-4228.

Tuesdays at Duncaster:

A Passage to India & W. B. Yeats

Tuesdays at Duncaster is a program of dinners, lectures and discussions specially arranged at Duncaster for residents and for Fellows of the President’s College. Each session can be signed up for separately, and non-residents of Duncaster are encouraged to attend. A reception and dinner will be followed by a lecture by a University of Hartford faculty member, with discussion seminar-style.

April 20, 2010, 5:30 p.m. Catherine Stevenson, former Dean for International and Honors Programs, University of Hartford

A Passage to India

E. M. Forster’s superbly crafted novel A Passage to India (1924) describes with great sympathy the collision of values between East and West and between British colonizers and the Indian elite. Over eighty years have passed since the novel was written, the old British India has been dismantled, and it has been replaced by a chaotic, vibrant, yet still deeply contradictory society (or rather three societies, because of the division among India, Pakistan and Bangladesh). What can we learn about the novel and about present-day India by putting the two side by side?

Catherine Stevenson, a frequent lecturer in the President’s College, is a former professor of English at the University and was Dean of International and Honors Programs. She is the author of Victorian Women Travel Writers in Africa (G.K. Hall, 1982) and many scholarly articles on English literature, theater, and women’s studies. In her 30 years at the University of Hartford, she has served as a department chair, Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, Assistant Provost and Dean of the Faculty, and the Harry Jack Gray Distinguished Teaching Humanist. She has received a Yale Visiting Faculty Fellowship, a Danforth Fellowship, and a Woodrow Wilson Fellowship, as well as the University of Hartford’s Outstanding Teachers Award and the Stephen Joel Trachtenberg Award for Service to the University. She has recently returned from a trip to India.

May 18, 2010, 5:30 p.m. Joseph Voelker, Dean of Arts and Sciences, University of Hartford

Yeats in Love

Dean Voelker writes: “Throughout much of his life, Maude Gonne was for the Anglo-Irish poet William Butler Yeats his unobtainable beloved and his muse. Yeats meditated upon her extraordinary beauty and her revolutionary embrace of violence against the British authorities. From his suffering of unrequited love came some of the finest poetic accounts of amatory bitterness in the English language. We will trace briefly the historic circumstances behind these poems, and read them closely to tease out their passion and complexity.”

Registration for Tuesdays at Duncaster (including dinner and reception): $20 per session for Duncaster residents, $20 per session for Fellows, $30 per session for others.

All sessions will take place at Duncaster, 40 Loeffler Road, Bloomfield.
Registration Form and RSVP

Please check relevant items and indicate amount paid at right.

☐ President’s College Fellow, 2009-2010 (parking on campus, library privileges, discounts on courses, information about events). $75 for spring semester

☐ Alternative Energy Sources. Tom Filburn. Apr. 7, 14, 21. $60 ($40 Fellow)

☐ English Musical Tradition. Michael Lankester. Apr. 12, 19, 26, May 3, 10. $120 ($90 Fellow)

☐ History of West Hartford. Tracey Wilson. May 6, 13, 20, 27. $70 ($50 Fellow)

☐ Fridays at the Mortensen. M. & J. Morrison. Apr. 16. $40 ($30 Fellow)

☐ Fridays at the Mortensen. Joseph Voelker. May 7. $40 ($30 Fellow)

☐ Fridays at the Mortensen. Clara Fang. June 4. $40 ($30 Fellow)

☐ All three Fridays at the Mortensen. Special Fellows price. $75 (this price for Fellows only)

☐ Tuesdays at Duncaster. Catherine Stevenson. Apr. 20. $30 ($20 Fellow)

☐ Tuesdays at Duncaster. Joseph Voelker. May 18. $30 ($20 Fellow)

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