

What's New

- Major Gift from Travelers
- Fifth Graders Go to College in April
- Petit Family Foundation Gift
- Thanks to Bank of America
- Partnering with the MetroHartford Alliance

Members

Capital Community College

Central CT State University

Charter Oak State College

Goodwin College

Hartford Seminary

Rensselaer at Hartford

Saint Joseph College

St. Thomas Seminary

Trinity College

UConn Greater Hartford Campus

University of Hartford

HARTFORD CONSORTIUM FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

March 2011

Travelers Supports Career Beginnings in a Big Way

The Travelers Companies, Inc. once again has stepped up with a major gift to provide ongoing support for Career Beginnings college access program. Through its foundation and the EDGE program (Empowering Dreams for Graduation and Employment), Travelers is presenting \$100,000 to support Career Beginnings participants. This marks the fourth consecutive year that Travelers has stepped up to sustain program operations with a gift of this size.

Career Beginnings offers college access to first-generation students from Hartford, East Hartford and Bloomfield public schools. Students in grades 9-12 receive one-on-one advising, participate in monthly workshops, work with adult mentors from companies like Travelers, and visit Consortium campuses to assist them in finding and applying to the right school.

TRAVELERS

"Gifts of this magnitude represent a genuine commitment on the part of our corporate leaders to contribute to the future well being of the Hartford region. Career Beginnings has been sustained throughout its history by Travelers' outstanding generosity," noted Martin Estey, Career Beginnings program director.

The Consortium program works with other Travelers EDGE partners like CT Pre-Engineering Program (CPEP) and UConn School of Business to make college a reality for many students throughout the region.

New Website Goes Live!

It's no longer "Location, Location, Location!" but "Communication, Communication, Communication!" The Hartford Consortium for Higher Education took a big step forward on March 7 when it unveiled its new, interactive website. Visitors to the site will be able to do everything from linking to each member's own website, get resources about college applications, learn how to be a successful mentor,

and cross-register for courses at Consortium institutions.

Zag Interactive in Glastonbury worked with Consortium staff to create this lively, fresh-looking site. Check it out at www.hartfordconsortium.org and let us know what you want to see on the website.

Fifth Graders Go to College Thanks to CIGNA!

5th Graders will sport these colorful shirts for their CCSU visit



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CONTACT PERSON:
JOB #:
PROOF #:
PROOF DATE:
PRINT SIZE (FRONT):
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On Tuesday, April 5 almost 200 fifth-grade students from Carmen Arace School in Bloomfield will have the chance to go to college for a day. With the generous support of CIGNA Foundation, The Hartford Consortium for Higher Education and Central Connecticut State University are sponsoring the event.

Students will test out the gym, enjoy a visit to the Copernican Observatory and Planetarium, and have lunch in one of the dining halls.

Did you know that Central CT State University has a Planetarium?

Key planners for the event are Ramon Hernandez, Assistant Dean of Student Affairs at Central CT State University, Tracy Youngberg, the principal of Carmen Arace Middle School, and Steve Gorman, Enterprise Project Manager for the CT State University System. They have been working closely with Career Beginnings staff to create a day

filled with variety and excitement, not to mention food.

The 4-year-old program is an early exposure to college life for younger students. CIGNA Foundation has partnered with the Hartford Consortium to bring this program to more Bloomfield students each year.

Program Director Martin Estey notes, "Getting kids excited about college early is the key to their graduating successfully from high school and that's what the Fifth Graders program is all about. We couldn't do it without sponsors like CIGNA."

Watch for pictures of this special day in our next issue!

A Neighborly Gesture

Bank of America will open its newest Hartford branch office at State House Square at the end of March, across the street from the Consortium offices on Pratt Street. In honor of the move from its longtime headquarters at 777 Main Street, the Bank selected

a local charity as recipient of a \$5,000 gift.

Senior VP of Corporate Social Responsibility for Bank of America Constantine Andrews notified the Consortium that Career Beginnings is being presented a check on April 8 at the new State House Square branch.



Petit Family Foundation Helps Young Scholars

The Petit Family Foundation in Plainville, CT has awarded Career Beginnings \$2,500 to support its book award program for graduating seniors. Thanks to this generous gift, a group of young women from the Career Beginnings graduating class of 2011 will be selected in May to receive at least \$250 towards their first-year books in college.

Dr. William Petit requested that the awards be made

to young women who will be pursuing degrees in one of the sciences or a medical field. College advisors Carla Hawkins and Zakiya Edens are working with Career Beginnings program director Martin Estey to select up to 10 recipients from participating high schools. These lucky recipients will receive their awards on May 25 at Trinity College during 25th anniversary graduation ceremonies

“We are humbled that the Petit

Family Foundation has chosen Career Beginnings as a deserving program and we know that the lucky recipients will get a great start to college with this assistance,” said Martin Estey.



MetroHartford Alliance and the Consortium Link Up

The MetroHartford Alliance has maintained a long-standing relationship with the Hartford Consortium for Higher Education. Four Consortium member presidents sit on the Alliance Board. In 2010 the two organizations forged closer ties with an agreement that positions the Alliance as adminis-

trative manager for Consortium business.

In addition to renting office space from the Alliance, the Consortium now benefits from its financial management services, IT and public relations expertise among other services. There have also been some very

tasty cookie exchanges!

“The Consortium is focused on helping to strengthen tomorrow’s workforce pipeline so this agreement with the region’s economic development leader is a natural partnership for us,” notes Consortium executive director Margaret W. Nareff.



Volunteer Mentors Needed Now!

Change a teen’s life as a Career Beginnings mentor. Only 5 hours a month.

Call Martin at (860) 702-3801.


Introducing the New ED

Margaret W. Nareff comes to the Consortium from The Shelter for Women, where she served as executive director for almost 4 years, and forged its alliance with The Village for Families & Children last summer. She has spent many years in education and nonprofit administration,

and is a former mentor with Career Beginnings.

Mrs. Nareff is a proud graduate of one of the founding Consortium members: Hartford College for Women, and holds a bachelor’s degree from Smith College, and a master’s degree from another founding member, Trinity College,

as well as a master’s in education administration from UConn. She resides in Avon with her husband and 5 cats.



**HARTFORD CONSORTIUM
FOR HIGHER EDUCATION**

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region since 1972*

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The mission of the Hartford Consortium for Higher Education is to foster collaborative endeavors among higher education institutions to:

EXPLORE new academic directions through optimal sharing of collegial resources, information, expertise and ideas;

SERVE as a catalyst for innovative educational initiatives that respond to a changing educational environment;

ENCOURAGE educational excellence across the lifespan; and

ASSERT the role of higher education in the economic, cultural and social life of Hartford and the region.

Thanks to Our Generous Donors!

Our thanks go to the following donors who have made gifts to support our programs this year:

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*Gifts and pledges 7/1/10- 3/17/11. We apologize
for any omissions which are inadvertent.*