

# WestConn at Waterbury

## NEWSLETTER



Volume 5, Issue 1

Fall 2010

**Apply now to transfer to WestConn for Spring 2011. WCSU students register as assigned beginning in November.**

### From the Dean's Desk ...



Ellen Durnin, Ph.D.  
Dean, Graduate  
Studies and External  
Programs

As I leave WCSU to serve as dean of the school of business at Southern Connecticut State University, I'd like to reflect a bit on our history. Ten years ago, the State of Connecticut provided funding to the State University System

to develop bachelor-completion programs in *Criminology, Management, and Nursing*, fields deemed to be shortage areas by the Connecticut Workforce Investment Board. WestConn and Central took the initiative, and *WestConn and Central at Waterbury* was born. Central provides upper-level Criminology courses for their students,

while WestConn brings all courses and services to Founders Hall.

On a hot day in July 2000, I surveyed our space - one office and two classrooms that had not been renovated since the '50s, with no window screens or air conditioning. When the secretary called me requesting fly swatters and bug spray, I knew we had work to do. (Con't. Pg. 4)

### Special points of interest:

- ENROLLMENT GROWS 78%
- ADMISSIONS FAQs
- BENEFITS OF CLEP TESTS
- FREE WCSU COURSES
- NVCC TO WCSU SCHOLARSHIP
- NURSING GRADUATION GATHERING
- GUEST SPEAKERS

### Waterbury RN to BS Graduates, Recognition Gathering April 27, 2010



Barbara Piscopo, RN to BS Coordinator, Janet Ferrigon-Bigger, Patricia Ziske, Madeline Diaz, Jennifer Calo, Morgan Lacilla, Susanne Paulette, Dean Ellen Durnin

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# WestConn at Waterbury

## Making Your Connections to a Higher Degree

**AnnMarie Puleo**, Assistant Director of Admissions is available in Waterbury (Founders Hall 205a) and in Danbury to guide students interested in transferring to WestConn at Waterbury's degree completion programs: **BBA in Supervisory or Small Business Management and RN to BS Nursing**. She will also offer course equivalencies and preliminary transfer evaluations for **other undergraduate programs offered in Danbury**. If you are interested in studying at the **graduate level**, she will assist you with contacting the appropriate graduate coordinator and with the application process. Transfer applicants must have earned 12 or more college credits since their high school graduation. Call 203-596-8750 to make an appointment.

**Transferring is easy.  
WestConn at Waterbury  
welcomes you!**

**Q: When should I apply?**

A: It is best to submit your application and transcripts one semester in advance. For example, apply during the fall to be accepted for the upcoming spring semester. For fall admission, submit your application and transcripts during spring or early summer.

**Q: When is the application period closed?**

A: WestConn admits students based on a **rolling admission** basis. This means that you are welcome to apply for admission up until the first week of classes. However, certain programs will reach full capacity well before the end of summer. WestConn admits students on a first come, first served basis. Apply early.

**Q: What do I need to be considered and where should I send my materials?**

A: Send your application, \$50 fee, proof of immunization, and official transcripts from every college or university you attended to **WestConn at Waterbury, 750 Chase Parkway, Waterbury, CT 06708**. (For RN to BS only: include a copy of your current RN license.)

**Q: Where will I find the immunization form?**

A: Request a form at Founders Hall 129 or see [www.wcsu.edu/waterbury](http://www.wcsu.edu/waterbury), click

on **forms**. If you graduated after 1999 from a Connecticut high school, you may submit an official high school transcript for proof of immunization.

**Q: What is the Minimum GPA Requirement?**

A: A cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 for all previous college level study is required to transfer to WCSU. However, a 2.0 GPA does not guarantee admission to the University. Students seeking transfer to WestConn are encouraged to perform to the best of their abilities academically in order to enhance their transfer application. Some academic programs have special admission requirements beyond the general university admission requirements. Transfer applicants with 45 or more credits must meet special requirements. Ansell School of Business programs, including Justice and Law Administration require a 2.3 GPA. See AnnMarie for details of other programs.

**Q: How many of my credits can be transferred to WestConn?**

A: WestConn will accept a maximum of **75 credits from a two-year institution or program and up to 90 credits from a four-year school**. All academic courses from Central, Eastern, or Southern Connecticut State Universities with a grade of D minus or higher, will transfer to WestConn. Some vocational or technical institution credits *may not* be transferable to WCSU. WestConn's Admission Counselors will always try to apply the best selection of credits to your undergraduate program.

**Q: What can I do if I am dissatisfied with the way my credits are transferred?**

A: You may *appeal* to have your transfer credit evaluation reviewed by the Director of Undergraduate Admissions by calling (203) 837-9000. Act promptly. You have one semester after your acceptance to appeal the transfer credit evaluation.

**Q: How many credits must I earn at WestConn?**

A: In order to earn a degree from WCSU, a minimum of **one-half of the credits required** in any major must be completed at WestConn. All transfer students must complete a **minimum of 30 credits** at WestConn in order to be eligible for graduation.

**Q: What if I have an Associate Degree?**

A: You must meet minimum GPA requirements for your selected program.

WestConn accepts courses for transfer with any passing grade within the AS program. Courses transferred to WestConn will have the notation "T" (for "transfer") on your transcript, and will not carry a grade value.

**Q: How are WestConn programs connected to the Community Colleges?**

A: Your transfer is made easy by the Connecticut Community College Articulation Agreements. One of these is the **Dual Admission Compact Program**. It's designed for students who plan to earn an AS from a Connecticut Community College (in 5 years or less) and want to earn a bachelor's degree at WCSU or one of the other 3 CSU System institutions, beginning within two years of completing the AS. *Students must have earned 15 or fewer transferable college credits at the community college at the time of application.* Visit <http://www.ct.edu/students/dual#about> for more information or contact Rich Myers in the Admissions Office at (203) 837-9000.

**Q: How can I save time and expense by taking credit-by-exam at WestConn?**

A: WestConn recognizes the **College Level Examination Program (CLEP)**, sponsored by the College Board and awards credit for both general and subject exams, conditional on the student's achieving an appropriate score. See your advisor about which tests to take.

**Q: What is the cost?**

A: For each exam, WCSU students pay \$25 to register and \$77 on the testing day. **Testing is free with Military ID**

**Q: When and where are tests offered?**

A: Saturday testing is scheduled every 4-6 weeks at Westside campus Student Center in Danbury. Private testing on weekdays can be arranged.

**Q: How many may I take on one day?**

A: On most Saturdays, two; 9AM and 11AM seatings are filled first.

**Please visit the Academic Testing website [www.wcsu.edu/academictesting](http://www.wcsu.edu/academictesting) for more information, forms, FAQs, links and study guides.**



The Admissions Office is now inside F205a on the left.

The Management Faculty Office has relocated to F206.

## Students' Experience Enriched with Guest Speakers

### HPX 292.71 Naturopathy, Homeopathy, Herbs & Nutritional Self-Care

Students in **Judith Dreyer's** course benefited from the professional experience of two guest lecturers. Lively presentations enhanced the course by giving a global view of alternative therapies, exploring pros and cons. Darlene Bruns discussed essential oils and aromatherapy: its history, method of distillation and practical uses. She brought several samples for experiential learning and provided web sites and other resources. Students became convinced of the ability of essential oils/aromatherapy to be helpful. They learned to make lotions and found scents that enhance studying while others promote slumber. Many students plan to integrate these products into their daily lives and their practice of healing and wellness. Dr. Gazsi, a practicing Naturopath, discussed the history of Naturopathy, medical licensing requirements and a comparison with Western trained physicians. He presented realistic views of illness and treatment using case studies that demonstrate how he treats common disorders. Students gained new ideas for using homeopathic remedies and a clearer understanding of what the practice is and how it works. Students reported being inspired to live a healthier lifestyle and left with tools to keep themselves and their families and patients healthier.

### Nursing in the Community NUR 330

Lois Mulhern from the Waterbury Health Dept. discussed school nursing. Students in **Dr. Ellen Abate's** class work with families experiencing illness helping to identify and connect them with supportive resources in the community.

At the invitation of **Mark Case**, Theresa O'Brien helped students in **MGT 340 Total Quality Management MGT 340** with a case study discussion pertaining to her time at Xerox during great change and initiative within Quality Management.

For her **Nursing Practicum, NUR 375**, RN student **Madeline Diaz** worked with a group of Hispanic diabetic patients, presenting six sessions on nutrition at CT Mental Health Center in New Haven. Given in Spanish, the lectures were followed by a "healthy lunch" prepared by Ms. Diaz and her preceptor.

Nursing Professors **Ellen Abate** and **Barbara Piscopo** presented "**Promoting Community Health Role Competence in RN-BS Students Using a Nurse-Family Health Partnership**" in Chicago on June 11-13, 2009. The Association of Community Health Nurse Educators 2009 Annual Institute is a conference for nurse educators who are teaching in the area of public and community health.

## Enrollment Soars



Students are finding convenience, value and academic excellence close to home. Compared to the previous academic year, as of June 30, 2010, Waterbury's enrollment for BBA in Management was **up 15%**, RN to BS **up 39%**, and Waterbury-at-large (primarily general education courses) **up 78%**.

**WCSU  
Veterans' Affairs  
Questions?  
Contact  
Franklyn Ragan  
203-837-8840**

**Ira Joe Fisher on air and in person.** NPR Poet and CBS television personality Ira Joe Fisher adjunct professor of English at WestConn at Waterbury appeared Oct. 18, 2009 at Schine Auditorium, Sacred Heart University, Fairfield. He shared readings from his second book of poetry, *Songs from an Earlier Century*. A follow-up to his first poetry collection, *Some Holy Weight in the Village Air*, this new compilation takes the reader deeper into the New England landscape and ultimately deeper into the self as he explores that region between people and nature.

## Planning Ahead

<b>Spring Registration 2011</b>	Begins in November as assigned
Final Exams Fall 2010	December 11-17, 2010
<b>Winter Intersession 2010</b> (Danbury only)	December 27, 2010-January 22, 2011
<b>Spring Semester first day of class</b>	<b>January 24, 2011</b>
Summer 2011 Registration	Begins in April as assigned
Final Exams Spring 2011	May 16-21

## FREE WCSU courses Cross- Registration

Community College students, are you taking 12 credits during any semester?

**You may take an additional 6 credits at any WCSU location for FREE**

Call 203-596-8777

## New! Book rentals now available

Find complete  
Textbook  
information

by course and section at [www.wcsu.edu](http://www.wcsu.edu). Click on the **Quick Links** dropdown then "Bookstore".

**Have books shipped to you directly!**

**Want cash for your used textbooks?**

Sell texts back at Midtown Campus, Danbury 203-837-8464 or NVCC 203-575-8075 or see

[www.textbooks.com](http://www.textbooks.com),  
[www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com),  
or [www.replay-media.com](http://www.replay-media.com)

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**Full Two Year Scholarship Available to NVCC Grads**

**Have you been accepted to WestConn and will you have a 3.3 GPA or better as you graduate from NVCC?**

Apply before March 31st at NVCC for the **President to President Scholarship** for two years in-state tuition and fees. Contact Yvette Tucker in Kinney Hall 514B, 203-596-8787.

(Con't. from page 1)

That fall, we renovated two classrooms and the F-129 office, providing the state of the art learning environments that students enjoy today. On each of our renovation projects I have been fortunate to work with **Eric Lessne**, who has brought in the work under budget, on time, and with high quality results.

**Lorraine Capobianco** figured out how all our technology in Waterbury could be connected to the Danbury campus, providing a seamless environment for faculty, students and staff.

**Over the years, the programs have grown, with over 300 students studying at the Waterbury location each semester. We have created a "one-stop" experience for our students, where they can apply, register, purchase textbooks, receive academic advisement and be connected with Danbury as needed.** We have developed strong relationships with the academic departments, whose Chairs schedule general education courses in Waterbury to support students' schedules. **The majority of Waterbury-based students are able to complete their bachelors' degrees without ever traveling to Danbury.** Today we enjoy comfortable classrooms, a computer lab, a top-drawer nursing lab including *SimWoman*, and office space for faculty and staff.

My enduring thanks goes to **Maureen**

**Gamache** who for many years kept Waterbury humming on a daily basis, always available to assist faculty, students and staff with a smile. We wish her well in her new role as Assistant Registrar in Danbury. In the same way **Catherine Langellotti**, our secretary, will continue to support all the people and activities here. **AnnMarie Puleo**, our admissions counselor, encourages our students to realize their abilities and to persevere with their decision to complete their bachelor degree. Thanks also to our computer support personnel and helpful student workers. We have created a true team where service excellence is paramount, and I am proud of all they do.

Finally, **I wish to thank the faculty members who have provided the high quality education that our students enjoy. They are the ones that make this program special.** I'd particularly like to single out **Dr. Barbara Piscopo** of the Nursing department for recognition. Barbara has been there with me since the first day. Her advocacy for her students and the RN to BS program is remarkable. She has grown the program into the successful initiative it is today; we are addressing the demand for bachelor-prepared nurses that our health care organizations demand.

My best wishes to all for a very successful academic year. I am proud of what we have achieved, and I expect to hear great things about WestConn at Waterbury in the future. -*Dr. Ellen Durnin*

**COMPUTER CENTER Founders Hall 205**

**Q: What three computer accounts are available at WestConn at Waterbury?**

**A:** A **WCSU email account**, a **windows account** (for accessing computers on campus & your files off campus), and, using the same login, **WestConnduit access** for viewing your grades, registration, announcements, payments, and online classes.

**Q: When do I get my computer accounts?**

**A:** After you register, you can obtain your computer accounts by visiting the WestConn at Waterbury Computer Center in room F205. **Bring your schedule and ID.**

**Computer Center Fall Semester Hours**  
**Monday 5:30-8 p.m. Tuesday 3-8:30 p.m.**  
**Wednesday 5:30-8 p.m. Thursday 3-5 p.m.**

**Weather and Emergency Cancellations**  
**WCSU Hotline 203-837-9377 or**  
**www.wcsu.edu**  
**Quick Link to "Weather Alert"**