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**A**  
**HISTORY**  
**of**  
**WESTERN**  
**CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**1978-1993**

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## FOREWORD

Since Charlotte Isham's 1978 history of the first 75 years of Western Connecticut State University, much has occurred, in the world, the country and state, and, of most immediate interest to readers of this record, the school. For whatever its activities and name, those working and learning at it think of it as a place for learning by all: indeed, of teaching by all, for whoever has stood in front of a classroom is deeply conscious of how much has been passed to the teacher by the students.

This monograph, whose chapter numbers continue Dr. Isham's, has been specifically prepared for the visitors to WestConn (or Western or WCSU) who have the responsibility of the decennial accreditation evaluation of the university. Therefore it is sketchier than a full historical examination of the past fifteen years. There are no pictures, and a history without pictures is as a day without love. Those for whom it is written will be obtaining information not merely from books and reports, but also by observing and by talking with staff and students.

Names of individuals are mentioned where it seems appropriate, inasmuch as the writer believes people, not organizational charts--useful as they can be--are, after all, the basis of any organization. Pretending an institution as vibrant and personal as a university can be faceless, can be anonymous, is nonsense.

Since the author has enjoyed his findings, and been amused by some of them, and since he believes a sporadic touch of levity may lighten the work of his intended audience, the reader may find such a touch here and there. I hope the monograph is worth your time, for both your work and your entertainment.

Edwin A. Rosenberg

## **DEDICATION**

**This section of the history of  
Western Connecticut State University  
is dedicated to those without whom  
some of the staff might have been forced  
to seek other employment:**

### **Our Students,**

**many of whom have distinguished themselves  
and brought credit to the school  
in a wide variety of ways,  
including transferring elsewhere.**

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## CHAPTER VI -- Part 2

### Dr. Robert M. Bersi, *President*

1975 - 1982

Dr. Bersi successfully continued his efforts to turn into reality the many promises to develop the Westside campus, despite repeated opposition from higher education leaders at both public and private schools. He received firm support, not only from area legislators and business people, but also from Governor Ella Grasso and her visits to WestConn.

In October of 1977, the State Bonding Commission approved the construction of a student residence at Westside. The next year, the Governor announced groundbreaking that summer for a Westside classroom building and a dormitory. In early 1979, however, after bids had gone out and come back, the lowest bid for the classroom building was more than the money allocated for it.

In mid-February of 1979, therefore, the Board of Higher Education shelved the Westside project for further review. After the Student Government Association held a well-reported mock funeral, area community leaders flooded Hartford with letters, and in late March, the Bonding Commission allocated further funds for the building.

Ground was broken on April 3, with Governor Grasso, Chairman of the Board of Trustees Lawrence J. Davidson, Presidents Bersi, and former President Ruth A. Haas all wielding shovels. So, after discussions dating as far back as 1962--at least--a second campus for WestConn was under way.

A highlight of the fall of 1978 was "WestConn Faculty Seminars," sponsored by the Research and Development Committee. This was a series of short talks by faculty members from a variety of disciplines--art, foreign languages, the sciences, business, and English--as well as poster presentations.

In 1979 and 1980, the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare granted the school a total of over \$96,000 to develop its Cooperative Education Program. Since then, it gradually expanded and has served many students.

President Bersi and Business School Dean Stephen Feldman worked hard to involve the community in the further development of WestConn. In 1980, Nathan S. Ancell, President of the Ethan Allen Corporation, and the Corporation generously contributed \$100,000 and \$500,000, respectively, to the Business School, consequently named the Ancell School of Business.

Meanwhile, the WestConn Weather Station was increasing its regional services. The Governor appointed Melvin Goldstein, the school's meteorologist who was becoming increasingly prominent on state radio and television as "Dr. Mel," as her consultant on weather conditions in Connecticut. Forecasts pinpointing amounts and hours of hazardous weather--snow, freezing rain, or sleet--helped road crews be ready at proper times and to minimize their time on the roads, thus conserving state funds. In 1980, the station began a 24 hour forecast service for the Danbury area via one minute telephone tapes. The next year, the station began sending its data to the National Weather Service.

The school was honored, in early 1981, when President Jimmy Carter presented an award for energy efficiency to the Biology Department's Thomas Butterworth for outstanding conservation activities at his farm.

Dr. Bersi's tenure ended in June of 1981 when he resigned to become Chancellor of the University of Nevada. In late October, after his departure, the final results of his labors came to fruition when ground was broken for the Westside dormitory, named Ella Grasso Hall in memory of a school's friend whose career was abruptly ended by cancer. Participating at the ceremony were William O'Neill, the new Governor, Congressman William Ratchford, and WestConn's new President, appointed during the summer, former Business School Dean Stephen Feldman.

## CHAPTER VII

### Dr. Stephen Feldman, *President*

1981 - 1992

President Feldman's background in business and acquaintances with many area community leaders was an advantage to WestConn in obtaining needed facilities and other support that the state was sometimes not able to supply immediately.

With the appreciated assistance of its neighbors, WestConn joined schools and businesses across the country moving into the computer age. In the summer of 1982, the Perkin-Elmer Corporation donated a computer center with 36 terminals. By fall, some 1500 students were on line, compared to less than 400 the previous semester.

Over the following years, more terminals and printers were added. Students now could work not merely at the main center at Westside, but also in the Haas Library and in two rooms open 24 hours a day: one at Westside, and the other in Higgins.

Administrative work such as registration and record keeping was increasingly computerized, and faculty found a variety of uses for the new technology. By the end of Dr. Feldman's presidency, terminals and printers were in many administrative and faculty offices. "E-mail" had become the communication norm, not only within the campus, but from WestConn to colleges and universities literally all over the world via Internet, which also provided access to many data bases.

In addition, the library could now access a wide variety of data bases, enabling students to learn to work with modern equipment and to perform research more thoroughly and efficiently. Today the eyes of WestConn are on the blinking cursor many hours of the days and nights.

President Feldman had a great interest in sports, believing good teams would help build community support for the school. For information on the

athletic program during his years at WestConn, see Appendix V.

A highlight of Dr. Feldman's presidency was the opening, in January of 1982, of the Westside campus by Governor William O'Neill. On hand was James Dyer, '72--Danbury Mayor, former state representative, and the first student member of the Board of Trustees--along with area legislators. The formal ribbon cutting took place in early April, attended by former Presidents Bersi and Haas, State University President James A. Frost, Board of Trustee members, and the Governor, who called the campus a "true ecumenicalism of local, state and private sector people." Completion is expected in the spring of 1994.

The spring also saw the retirement of Gertrude Braun, who had started as a Laboratory School teacher in 1945 and then became college Social Science teacher, Assistant Director of Graduate Studies, and Academic Dean (later, Vice President for Academic Affairs). Conceded to know the most about the school's academic operations, Dr. Braun had made extraordinary contributions through her long and devoted service to the school and its students.

The death in an airplane crash of Robert S. Young, then President of the Fairfield Process Company, resulted in corporations and individuals in the Danbury area raising an astonishing million dollar endowment for a Library in his name at the Ancell School of Business. The endowment enabled the library to duplicate the Harvard Business School Baker Library's core collection of 4000 books and also fund reference sources and business journals, thus making the library "one of the finest in the country," according to President Bersi in the spring of 1981, when the endowment was announced. The ribbon-cutting took place in

late 1982. Again, Governor O'Neill was present and spoke, as did Roy Young, brother of Robert, and Nathan Ancell.

By far the biggest news in 1983 was the creation, on March 1, of the Connecticut State University, and the consequent local change from Western Connecticut State College to Western Connecticut State University. *The Echo* headlined the event: "We're a University!"

A new sign was unveiled in front of Old Main, and a statewide convocation was held at Southern Connecticut State University a few days later. In Danbury, the school celebrated with its own convocation three weeks later.

Over the years, the foreign student population had gradually been growing at WestConn, and a survey in the fall of 1983 showed a total of 47 in attendance. Fifteen were from Europe, ten each from South America and Asia, seven from the Far East, and five from Africa. The increasing numbers of foreign students had led to the appointment of a faculty advisor to help them adjust to a new country and a new school. Many went on to graduate schools in the United States, while some returned to benefit their own countries.

In the spring of 1984 the first major steps were taken towards the construction of a new athletic facility, badly needed and desired for years, but impossible at Midtown because of the constricted space. Funds were approved for engineering work on a large, multipurpose fieldhouse at Westside along with playing fields, tennis courts, and an additional parking lot.

A contract for engineering work was signed in October of 1984, but not until November 29 of 1990 was ground actually broken for what was named, in honor of the then retiring governor, the O'Neill Athletic and Convocation Center. Three stories high, it will have an arena with an indoor track and space for basketball, tennis, and volleyball courts; a pool; locker and weight rooms; and offices. Seating approximately 2500 spectators, expandable to about 3500 for convocations, it will have many uses for the school and the community. Completion is expected in the fall of 1993.

Also at Westside, ten years of planning and hard work culminated in the September, 1984, opening of the Charles Ives Center for the Arts. About 40 acres, with a pond, was leased to the Ives Corporation. The hillside memorial to the Danbury-born composer has a 58 foot diameter stage, large enough for a symphony orchestra, on a gazebo in the pond. The opening weekend presented 18 acts and over 500 performers, including magicians, knife jugglers, and clowns. The main features were jazz musicians and an orchestra; an estimated 6000 people attended.

1985 was a good year at WestConn for the natural sciences. Astronomy professor Phillip Lu and a student went to Chile over the year-end break and studied stars containing barium at the Inter-American Observatory at Cerro Tolo, Chile. At the end of the year, the Ermets, a local couple, donated a telescope to be put atop Higgins. Dedicated by the supportive Governor O'Neill, the telescope brings stars "ten times closer for study and research" and also can be connected to a computer.

In 1983, the weather center received a \$143,000 grant from Northeast Utilities for Dr. Goldstein to refine his Differential Advection Index (DAX) severe storm warning technique. Two years later he received an \$82,600 grant by the Fund for Excellence from the State Department of Education for computer hardware to develop a data acquisition system for DAX analyses. Several power companies in the eastern US were subscribing to the DAX forecasts. Planning began for a BA in Meteorology, leading to its inception in the fall of 1987.

In the spring of 1985, with most of its members from the Student Senate, that body approved a WCSU Yacht Club, whose constitution said nothing about going yachting. However, improper membership requirements forced the Senate President, himself a member, to veto the use of student funds, and the club never pulled away from the dock.

Over the summer, the Boehringer Ingelheim Corporation, celebrating its 100th anniversary as a world-wide producer of pharmaceuticals and

chemicals, presented the university with a \$100,000 endowment for a new biochemical laboratory, completed by the following summer. Some of the money was put aside for continual upgrading of the laboratory.

The Physical Education Department, specializing in credit and theory courses, with a minor in health fitness, and the Athletic Department, which focuses on varsity and intra-mural sports, amicably separated.

In the fall of 1985, the Economics Club published the first issue of an economic journal containing articles on such topics as the stock market, establishing credit, small claims court, and taxes.

The school's resident Manhattan String Quartet, led by WestConn music professor Eric Lewis, visited Russia and, he said, performed "Russian music for Russian people." Dedicated to victims of war and fascism, the eighth quartet of Dmitri Shostakovich received an emotional welcome, and resulted in a three day visit in the spring of 1992 to WestConn by the Russian poet and dissident Yvgeny Yevtushenko. He participated in a panel discussion of political problems in the ex-USSR, gave an electrifying recital of his poetry, and met students informally and enthusiastically.

As it had since 1978 when a group was compatible, the Modern Language Department sponsored a 1986 spring visit to Spain.

In the fall of 1986, education majors learned that after 1990--later postponed to 1993--they would have to major in a subject field, with an Education minor. The effects are greater upon Elementary majors than Secondary majors, who already major in a discipline.

On November 24, 1986, the University and its community were saddened by the death, at the age of 83, of President Emeritus Ruth A. Haas. She had been not only the first woman to head a four year state-supported institution of higher education, but, by the time of her retirement, she had been one of the longest-term college presidents in this country.

1987's spring saw WCSU's College Bowl Team won the New England Regional title, defeating the University of New Hampshire, Dartmouth (twice),

MIT, and Brown. In the fall, they were third nationally.

Also that spring, the Perkin Fund for astronomical research, created by the founder of Perkin-Elmer, contributed \$20,000 to the Astronomy Department for a twenty inch telescope for research on our galaxy.

In the fall, the school's Counseling Center, with a staff of four, begins its tenth year.

As 1987 ended, the school's radio station, WXCI, was one of four nominated for best college radio station in the country by a trade journal for record companies and radio stations. The station started broadcasting in 1973 after four years of a predecessor, which was available, by closed circuit, only to Memorial Hall and the dormitories.

At the opening of the spring term in 1988, President Feldman detailed some of Western's contributions to the area:

1. Science Horizons, a high school competition at WestConn for area students, and science and mathematics enrichment days for area fifth grade students, both sponsored by Union Carbide.
2. Minority improvement efforts, a joint effort among WCSU, IBM, and Danbury's NAACP chapter.
3. Dr. Mel's weather reporting.
4. The Nursing Department's continuing education program, in conjunction with Danbury Hospital.
5. A wide variety of speakers (see Appendix S).

Also that spring, Laura Slocum, a senior Chemistry major, presented a paper at the Eastern Colleges Science Conference announcing she had synthesized Furan boronic ester. Her compound may shorten the time needed to detect germ warfare.

A \$64,000 renovation to the Language Laboratory made it one of the country's best. With 24 positions, it has a television screen so students can "see themselves" in a foreign country and talk on tape as may be appropriate for the situation.



The fall of 1988 saw the largest total enrollment at Western: 6380 students.

Governor O'Neill, CSU President Beal, and BOT President Davidson were on hand when IBM and WSCU announced Western will be the first school in the USA to install an IBM Advanced Technology Classroom. Chalkboards were to be replaced by sonic pens, and paper and pencil by computer keypads. With these, students can answer questions individually or in a group, and, if desired, the number of correct answers can be immediately determined. The system will have a large screen with graphics and audio. By the start of the 1990 spring semester, the Departments of Art, Education, Management Information Systems, and Nursing were testing the system.

Also that fall, the WestConn Honors Program, started a year earlier, had 35-40 students and offered two special courses each term.

To combat shortages of nurses, Danbury Hospital offered \$2000 each to all junior and senior nursing students at WestConn who would work one year at the hospital after graduation. The program includes practical experience and clinical instruction at the hospital.

The 1988-1989 academic year was marked by unusual controversy between the administration and the faculty. A year earlier, 76 fall courses had been cancelled, and after May of 1988, 87 fall courses were cancelled--displacing 536 students--and 31 added, for a net loss of 56. Many of these courses had enrollments of less than ten students, but some had 25 or so. Efforts to find other sections for displaced students were not always successful.

The cancellations were based on the AAUP-administrative contract's stipulation that adjunct faculty not teach more than 26.16% of the school's courses (compared with a national adjunct standard of 25%), a ratio exceeded because of faculty positions lost to Sabbatical leaves, departing faculty members, and an apparent hiring "freeze." It developed that the "freeze" was not absolute, but required central office approval of new hiring. Such approval was not sought by WCSU, while other units of the CSU did obtain approval for some hiring.

In October, an AAUP delegation conferred with CSU President Beal to present the faculty's views and try to resolve issues. The basic one, expressed by a faculty member in a November University Senate meeting, was that President Feldman did not understand "the real and genuine concerns of the campus." The Senate later voted to invite the President to its meetings.

After the President's talk to the faculty in late January, one faculty member stated that there was, on campus, a "terrible morale problem," whose symptoms had been "confrontations and tensions." Clearly, the views of some of the faculty and the President on the school's management varied considerably.

Following a report by an AAUP committee charged with drafting a resolution of no confidence in President Feldman, the AAUP instead determined to prepare a faculty evaluation of him. Of the 97 out of 191 full time faculty members responding, 76% gave the President an overall unsatisfactory rating. The AAUP said he scored "particularly low in promoting good morale among faculty, choosing and monitoring administrative subordinates, understanding faculty points of view, and honest statements for his actions." The AAUP president proposed a committee of administrators and AAUP representatives to "work towards solutions"; President Feldman concurred.

Also, the AAUP, by a paper ballot vote of 109-50 (87-37 by full-time faculty), had requested President Feldman to remove the Dean of Personnel and External Affairs for five reasons, including altering "official documents in a grievance process" and a "personal attack on a colleague performing legitimate union functions."

Another issue that roiled local waters during the year was the University Foundation. Recipient of donations from area corporations and individuals, and contributing to various school improvements--such as the Advanced Technology Classroom; poetry festivals and art shows; library acquisitions; computer and scientific equipment; a journalism seminar and a speaker series; publication of the proceedings of an international astronomy

conference held on campus; and student scholarships--its bylaws were secret, and its receipts and outlays nowhere publicly recorded. Attempts to use the state's Freedom of Information Act to obtain information about the Foundation did not succeed (over the summer of 1989, the FOI Commission issued its finding that the Foundation was not a public agency), but many on campus were upset by what they considered needless and insulting secrecy. Partly as a result of this case, the state legislature passed, on October 1, 1989, a bill requiring independent public audits of foundations with over \$100,000 in funds, and specified that the Board of Directors must include the school president, one faculty member, and one student.

By the end of the school year, efforts to improve communications, other campus problems, and possibly exhaustion led to hopes for a less rancorous future, as did prove the case the next academic year when state budgetary problems brought campus factions closer together.

During the summer of 1989, a volatile liquids storage facility was installed in Higgins. It features air exchange every two minutes, vapor-tight electrical components, grounded shelving, and floor drains to containment tanks. A safety and health administrator at Boehringer Ingleheim called it "one of the best of its kind in the Danbury area as well as in the CSU system." The move was welcomed, after decades of enough highly volatile materials being kept under the greenhouse at the south end of Higgins to blow up most of it as well as neighboring Fairfield Hall Dormitory while fire inspectors ranted about fire doors propped open for ventilation in some of Higgins' unintended saunas.

In the fall of 1989, the state's Department of Environmental Protection awarded a one-year grant to Biology Professor Peter Siver to study the effects of acid rain on six Connecticut lakes. The School also received a grant from the US Department of Education to enable it to inaugurate a substance abuse program of such value that it was funded in each of the two following years. Finally, Avon Products donated a fluorescent spectrophotometer for advanced chemistry courses.

That fall, questions were raised about the Basic Studies Program, inaugurated in 1973. Was it essen-

tially for students needing remedial work, or a second chance opportunity? It was noted that some students had been allowed into the program who did not meet its S.A.T. and class rank criteria. Admissions into the program had been strongly influenced by a 1985 state mandate to develop an ethnic diversity plan, in which Connecticut's public institutions of higher education were to bring minority enrollment percentages up to statewide minority population percentages. Non-compliance would result in the loss of funds. The University Senate consequently established a committee to investigate the admissions questions.

By the fall of 1991, Basic Studies was replaced by an Individualized Admissions Program. Students went into a five week summer acclimation "Step-Up" period, and then attended regular classes, plus a one credit skills development course. Students with deficiencies went for help to reading, writing, or mathematics clinics.

That fall, an Acts of Intolerance Committee began work to comply with the state Board of Higher Education's Policy Regarding Racism and Acts of Intolerance. Connecticut was the first state to implement such a policy state-wide. Over the summer of 1990, a part-time Director of Minority Affairs had been appointed to develop, implement, and oversee a program to serve students, faculty, staff, and students. A year later, the position becomes full-time, to offer added services and increase retention of minority students at WestConn.

In April, 1990, President Feldman announced the adoption of Western's Plan to Promote Pluralism, to enable "citizens fully to develop their potential without restraints based on gender, race, religion, and sexual orientation." The next spring, some faculty objected that the Plan violated ethical rights and the First Amendment: "good or bad taste can't be dictated or legislated." In April of 1991, the Ethics Lab recommended to the University Senate that the document should be revised within a year; it is now in limbo.

During the 1990 spring vacation, Protestant Campus Minister Ken Porter led 14 students to South Carolina, where they helped a town recover from Hurricane Hugo. Appreciated and welcomed,

they did carpentry and electrical work. Named "Alternative Spring Break," similar trips took students to North Carolina the next year to help a family service agency; to Georgia in 1992 to work with Habit for Humanity; and in 1993 to Homestead, Florida, to help clean up after Hurricane Andrew.

Also that spring, WestConn inaugurated a Minority Scholarship Program for Danbury junior high school students to encourage them to aim for college and, upon high school graduation, attend Western.

Over the summer, the Department of Higher Education awarded the Biology Department almost \$97,000 for a "clean room," to avoid the usual rain of terror--bacteria, yeasts, and spores--from ceiling tiles. The department also obtained a "state of the art microscope ... with all the ancillary photographic and video capability" of modern microscopes.

WestConn's first Connecticut State Professorship was awarded, in the fall of 1990, to Chemistry Professor Robert Merrer, for a "national reputation as a research scholar in toxicology [and] computer use in chemistry." The following year, Western's CSU Professorship went to internationally renowned investigator and analyst of extremely distant events, Phillip Lu, and in 1992, to Art Professor Margaret Grimes.

Going from the sublime to the ridiculous, female dormitory students suffered a "Panty Raid" on Homecoming Weekend in the fall of 1990 from masked student males. Those responsible were never clearly identified, but the consequences were letters, editorials, resolutions, police involvement, a campus investigatory committee's establishment, and a student, faculty, and administrator rally deploring such actions. The community was not amused.

At the beginning of 1991, an addition to Litchfield Hall was begun for the Health Services. It contains a triage room, an observation room, a laboratory, and six examination rooms. The first patient arrived on January 27, 1992.

In the spring of 1991, the first annual Family Weekend was held, with activities for family members, including siblings, and friends.

Students wishing to pursue majors in fields either never offered at Western, or eliminated earlier for low enrollments, by the fall of 1991 could create majors by obtaining an advisor, selecting appropriate courses, and then obtaining approvals.

The major campus news of 1992 was the announcement, in February, by President Feldman that he was resigning as of July to become President of Nova University in Fort Lauderdale. "I'm ready for new challenges," says Dr. Feldman.

From January to June of 1992, IBM reserved several cooperative education accounting jobs for Western students, who received both pay and course credits. Each year, some 200 students make use of the cooperative education program.

In early 1992, Oliver L. Niehouse donated over 3000 books to the Haas and Young libraries. Mr. Niehouse, on the marketing development faculty at New York University, founded his own management consulting firm.

Westconn's musical Davids--Justice and Law Administration Professor Machell and Music Professor Smith--on bagpipe and marching drum, respectively, entertained hundreds by parading on Higgins' lawn in their annual tribute to St. Patrick.

The fourth annual Oxford style debate was held in April. Two tuxedoed contenders from Oxford teamed up with two from Western on each side and, in an expectedly humorous manner, considered: "Politics is an Immoral Activity." Both sides lost.

Thus ended the Feldman era at WestConn. It was one of planning, building, and frustrations, with straitened state finances and controversy between the President and the staff creating tensions that gradually ebbed. Despite them, the school was adding to its physical plant and increasing the diversity of its students and staff--slower than many hoped for, but steadily.

And, as summer wore on, the school and its friends wondered what was now in store. Soon, they found out.

## CHAPTER VIII

### Dr. James R. Roach, *President*

1992 -

During the summer of 1992, a new president for WestConn was appointed: Dr. James R. Roach, for six years previously president of the University of Maine at Presque Isle. A native of Boston, Dr. Roach postponed taking office at WestConn until September 18 to be in Presque Isle at the opening earlier in the month of that school's new campus center, one of President Roach's major building achievements there.

Dr. Roach majored in education at Boston College, and later obtained a doctorate in world religions from Boston University. He taught at Salem State College, north of Boston, and then went to North Adams State College, in northwestern Massachusetts, as director of academic counseling, next becoming vice-president of academic affairs there.

In a school newspaper interview, Dr. Roach said: "A university is not just a president; it's faculty and students as well.... The basic priority is to strengthen the learning environment." In his 1993-1994 undergraduate catalog message, Dr. Roach depicts WestConn as "a dynamic and forward-looking university, characterized by a truly dedicated faculty and a diversified student body.... Western provides an education that builds on the past and looks to the future in an environment that is personal and caring."

President Roach's passions are languages and travel. Speaking German, French, Spanish, and Italian with varying levels of fluency, he credits four years of high school Latin for his success with Romantic languages, commenting that they are simply "Latin with olive oil." Dr. Roach uses his linguistic skills in traveling. He has studied in Switzerland, been to the former USSR, Czechoslovakia, and Hungary, to Ireland to seek his roots, and across the US.

During his first year at WestConn, Dr. Roach found the faculty, staff, and students all receptive and kind. He feels the state's financial binding is easing, and that there is great potential at WestConn especially since, unlike the other three branches, it has no close higher education competition. Also, the school is at a good geographic junction and blessed with several nearby large corporations which over the years have expressed their support for WestConn by contributions of money, materials, and time.

Dr. Roach's over-riding priority is to make Western "user-friendly," by which he means improving teaching and learning and becoming an academic learning community; he emphasizes the word "community." It will be difficult to achieve that objective, he admits, because the country's trend towards single agenda groups is reflected on campus. Wishing to help inculcate tolerance--a decent respect for others' views--the President is both experienced and realistic, and does not view the school as a social service institution.

Building a community means establishing a collegial atmosphere; the President wants the faculty and staff in the decision-making process as much as possible. He expects to focus on three areas at a time and review each in a year. Since the school operates at a university pace, not an industrial one, Dr. Roach added: "Never attempt more than 5% change per year in an academic institution; it takes 95% to keep the enterprise going."

After speaking glowingly of being in the second year of a five year, \$70 million program for a parking garage, a new dormitory, additions to the Student Center and the Haas Library, plus renovations to existing buildings, President Roach said

that his main objectives are more amorphous than construction, yet more important than bricks and mortar. He presents a clear impression the school is in fine hands, one confirmed by his weekly "Walk-in Hour," when anyone may drop in to complain, suggest, or simply chat.

The President's formal installation was October 28, when Governor Weicker and the Chairperson of the University of Maine Board of Trustees were among the dignitaries following Professor Machell's bagpipe.

Since 1978, when in the early fall WestConn had 210 full-time faculty members and about 375 employees, the school grew, by the fall of 1992, to 247 full-time faculty and about 420 employees.

To commemorate Columbus' arrival in the Americas, a Quincentennial Celebration was held on October 9 and 10. Organized by Dr. Lu, it featured 22 faculty papers in the sciences, humanities, and business; as well as cartographic and faculty and student art displays. Later, there were a piano recital, performances of three Shostakovitch string quartets, and Arthur Miller's "Death of a Salesman."

The keynote speaker was Li-Zhi Fang, Chinese human rights activist and dissident, now a physics and astronomy professor at the University of Arizona. He discussed the chilling effects of totalitarianism on science, and the reverse, politically liberating effect of science, which to flourish must be free.

As suggested by Social Work students, the AIDS quilt was displayed in the gymnasium over a weekend in May, 1993. Earlier, a speaker from the Danbury Health and Housing Department had spoken about young victims of AIDS.

The school newspaper's last spring issue featured "A Salute to WCSU's Unsung Heroes." With some pictures, brief sketches were given of 21 students and staff members who "try their hardest to make Western a better place, but are quick to pass that credit to others."

In the late spring, President Roach had all department heads and upper administrators--a total of

68 people--join him for an intense one day brainstorming session to discuss the Strategic Planning Document and whatever else people wished. He went from group to group, joining in discussions, and expects to hold an all day session for the entire faculty early the next semester.

Reflecting President Roach's main concerns, WCSU's Strategic Planning Document for 1993 - 1998 lists ten priorities:

- 1 Enhance Teaching and Learning
2. Maintain Program Excellence
3. Develop Human Resources
4. Provide Quality Academic Services
5. Develop an Integrated Information Network
6. Create a Student Centered Campus
7. Assure Equity, Access, and Diversity
8. Improve and Expand the Physical Plant
9. Restructure Fiscal Affairs
10. Promote Institutional Planning

In the latter part of the summer, a new position, Director of Multicultural Affairs, was established. The position, whose duties include that of Affirmative Action, results partly from internal and external criticism about minority hiring and retention of both faculty and staff.

As the last item of official business, it must be noted that Dr. Beal, dedicated and hard-working President of the Connecticut State University since 1985, stated in July that he would retire in May of 1994. The replacement search is to start early in 1994.

In mid-summer, to summarize, Danbury's newspaper, reviewing the school, wrote of its "35 undergraduate and 20 graduate degree programs and a wide choice of minors and options," many "complemented by cooperative education, work/study programs, internships, clinical experiences, laboratories and studio experiences."

The article continued with an account of Western's range of extracurricular activities: academic societies, fraternities and sororities, campus ministries and community service organizations, and varsity, club, and intramural

athletics. (*The News-Times*, August 4, 1993, "Education Section," page 2.)

Finally, as the summer of 1993 and this report both wind down, a campus wanderer notes the debris from local minimal constructionists: carpenter ants, whose boards and other building materials are strewn about; moles, creating great mounds of earth where once there was merely pavement; and spiders, evidenced by sagging electrical wires. Clearly, improved buildings will result from their joint labors, for the summer schedule includes:

1. White: a new access ramp, remodeled nurses' offices, rebuilt stairways, and the creation, in the basement, of a television studio and two viewing rooms for class or individual use.

2. Berkshire: revamped offices for the Dean of Arts and Science and for some faculty.
3. Litchfield Hall, a dormitory: some door modifications, a new access ramp, installation of sprinklers throughout, and the replacement of wardrobes.
4. Fairfield, the oldest dormitory: a repaired stairway and replacement of windows by energy-efficient ones.

The school that commenced just after the century commenced has ended ninety years of productive service. It looks forward to the challenges of the remainder of the century and the beginning of the next with confidence that its experience, its staff, and--above all--its students will be equal to those challenges.

## Appendix A: The Arts

"There's never anything to do at WestConn": a complaint typical of many schools. Really? Here are representative listings of artistic events produced by faculty members, who are both teachers and productive artists, and their students.

### Plastic Arts

In the spring of 1978, "The WPA and the Visual Arts," a symposium, was presented in Ives Auditorium. Area artists made presentations, and a Western professor gave an overview of the era. That fall, there were three art shows featuring students' work. The first was an exhibit of typography and logos, the second was paintings, and the third printings and drawings. These shows were held in the White Hall Art Gallery, on the building's third floor.

Similar exhibits were held annually. A typical semester's offering, in the spring of 1987, for example, included shows of "3D," drawings and paintings, illustrations, printmaking, and portfolios.

The next spring, the Art Department held a symposium featuring, as speakers, Mark Ryan, who held the Burger King Two Million Dollar Account; Jerry Anton, representing artists, and renowned illustrator Maurice Sendak. That fall, there was an exhibit of selections and new acquisitions.

In the spring of 1990, there was a lecture by James Grashow, illustrator, printmaker, graphic designer, and sculptor, who afterwards met and talked with students.

The same spring, in the fifth annual competition sponsored by Admissions Marketing Report, a national magazine, WestConn students took first place in the Newspaper Advertising Series and a merit award for WestConn's Admissions Newsletter. Three years later, two Graphic Design Seniors took first places for a painting and an illustration at the CSU Student Art Exhibit, judged by the Dean of the Yale Art School.

In the spring of 1993, in conjunction with his exhibit "Art and the Media," Fielding Dawson, a New York artist and author of "Black Mountain College," about the nurturing North Carolina art school, discussed "Inspirations and Creativity in the Arts."

Over the years, Department members have had their own work shown both at WestConn and in galleries and at exhibits in New Haven, Waterbury, and other area cities. Some of their works have been purchased by area corporations such as General Electric and Pepperidge Farms; others have been selected for juried exhibitions.

### Music

The Music Department, over the years, has presented many programs of a great variety. Here, by year, is a listing of some of them.

- 1978 -- Faculty recital: Saxophone
  - Brass Quintet Concert: the New England Brass Works
  - As part of the Festival of American Pioneers in Twentieth Century Arts, Otto Luening and Vladimir Ussachevsky, developers of electronic music
  - The Ithaca College Saxophone quartet
  - The Berkshire Trio: one community and two faculty players
  - Faculty recital: classical guitar
  - The Manhattan String Quartet
- 1979 -- A guest harpsichord recital
  - The Manhattan String Quartet
  - "An Evening of Charles Ives' Music for Voice," which included a lecturer.
- 1980 -- As part of an Arts Festival, there were Pianist Lukas Foss, guest Composer-in-Residence; Calliope, a Renaissance Wind Band; Joan Miller's DancePlayers; and a guest Jazz Artist, Clark Terry
  - A classical guitar duo

- Faculty ensemble: the New England  
Woodwind Quintet
- A classical guitarist
- 1981 -- Faculty recital: French Horn
- In Memoriam Governor Ella Grasso  
Concert, with the WestConn and Stamford  
High School Choruses
- Western Connecticut Symphony Orchestra,  
conducted by Skitch Henderson, with  
pianist Gary Graffman
- 1982 -- Faculty recital: French Horn
- Western Connecticut Symphony Orchestra,  
conducted by Robert Dunand, featuring  
trumpeter John Aley
- Arts Festival, with the Billy Taylor Trio  
and WestConn Jazz Ensemble
- Faculty recital: Piano
- Western Connecticut Symphony Orchestra,  
conducted by Beatrice Brown, with  
violinist Zvi Zeitlin
- 1983 -- Western Connecticut Faculty Chamber  
Players
- CT Symphony Orchestra, conducted by  
Skitch Henderson, with pianist Pamela Mia  
Paul
- A Jazz Fest, with the Ali Ryerson  
Quartet, the Dave Smith Trio, and the  
New England Jazz Orchestra
- 1984 -- Faculty recital: French Horn
- Faculty recital: Percussion and Cello
- 1986 -- "In Memoriam Ella Grasso," a  
Commemorative Concert with the Con-  
necticut Horn Quartet and solo horn and  
piano
- Young People's Concert Opera
- Charles Ives University Band Concert
- Faculty recital: Piano
- Manhattan String Quartet
- 1988-- An Evening of Tape Music, by a  
WestConn alumnus
- Faculty recital: Percussion, Piano, and  
Violin
- Participation with the Ives Center in a  
three week Fall Foliage Festival, which  
presented a string quartet, pianist Howard  
Tuvell of the Music Department, a flautist, and a  
wind quartet
- 1989 -- CSU Jazz Festival, with the CCSU and WCSU  
Jazz Ensembles and the WCSU Faculty Septet
- In a unique marathon series of performances, the  
resident Manhattan String Quartet presents all  
fifteen Shostakovich String Quartets
- "An Evening of Song," with Christina and  
Howard Rovics
- David Congo, a WestConn alumnus, and his  
computer music
- CSU Band Concert
- The Golden Years of Irving Berlin, with Soprano  
Jane Copeland Stevens
- Mansfield (England) University Wind Ensemble  
Concert
- A piano recital by Robert Goldsand, whose  
teacher was a pupil of Franz Liszt
- 1990 -- Faculty recital: Cello, Percussion, Piano
- Faculty recital: Flute, Piano
- Faculty recital: Piano
- A two-piano recital, at one of the Music  
Department's lunch time recitals, by the husband  
and wife team of Lark Popov and George Vona
- 1991 -- Faculty recital: Cello, Horn, Percussion
- Faculty recital: Flute, Piano
- Benefit Concert for a Gift of Life: Flute, Oboe,  
Piano
- Faculty Recital: Piano
- The Richie Hart Trio in Concert, with Ron Carter,  
Bass, and Ken Washington, Drums
- Holiday Madrigal Dinner, with the WCSU  
Madrigal Singers
- 1992 -- Faculty recital: Percussion
- CSU Band Festival
- Yvgeny Yevtushenko in Concert: the Manhattan  
String Quartet performs Shostakovich's Third  
and Eighth Quartets
- "A Night of Jazz"
- Tchaikovsky Chamber Orchestra
- Faculty recital: Piano
- "A Serious Night of Jazz"
- Faculty recital: Percussion, Piano, Saxophone
- The Manhattan String Quartet
- 1993 -- "A Night of Jazz II"
- The Greater Danbury Youth Wind Ensemble



-- Pianist Ruth Laredo in Concert

In addition, all Music Department majors present recitals, instrumental or voice, in their senior years. The Department also works with the Danbury Concert Association to house four concerts each year.

### Theater

Musicals, dramas, and experimental works have been staged over the years at WestConn. Berkshire now has an auditorium and a studio theater, the latter named for longtime director Richard Reimhold, who retired in 1992. In 1983 and 1984, there was summer theater with equity actors (i.e., professionals), who presented "West Side Story" and "How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying" the first year. Touring professional groups sometimes appear, but the shows usually involve only Western's students, with occasional community people performing roles that students cannot fill.

Here is some of what was on the boards for WCSU theater-goers.

- 1978 -- Edward Albee's "American Dream"
- 1979 -- Tennessee Williams' "Glass Menagerie"; Thornton Wilder's "Our Town"
- 1980 -- "The Admirable Crichton"
- 1983 -- "Fiddler on the Roof"
- 1987 -- "Antigone"
- 1988 -- "Guys and Dolls"; a female version of Neil Simon's "Odd Couple"; "As You Like It," done by the National Shakespeare Company; and three studio productions: "Streamers," "Beyond Therapy," and "Uncommon Women and Others"

- 1989 -- "Equus"; "American Buffalo"; "A Midsummers Night's Dream"
- 1990 -- "The Serpent," where audience, seated on carpeted platforms, and players interact; "Strindberg Tonight," co-authored by Jan Dow of the English Department, which contrasts 19th Century male and 20th Century female viewpoints; The National Shakespeare Company's "King Lear"; "The Boys Next Door," which took Honorable Mention at the All New England American College Theater Festival
- 1991 -- Neil Simon's "Broadway Bound"; Steven Sondheim's "Anyone Can Whistle"
- 1992 -- Arthur Miller's "Death of a Salesman"
- 1993 -- "Whose Life Is It Anyway?"; "Front Page"; "Arnold," a drama about the American Revolutionary general and traitor, featuring and written by a Drama major; and two African American plays

Other shows of past years include "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest"; "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown"; Neil Simon's "Brighton Beach Memoirs" and "Biloxi Blues"; and two controversial plays, "Springs Awakening" and "Women Behind Bars." One year, the faculty put on "The Fantasticks." In addition, the Communications and Theater Arts Department has for years presented shows in the area for children and the elderly, brought in actors, agents, and guest designers to talk to its students, and worked with the Music Department for the benefit of both.

Finally, members of all three departments were featured, in the spring of 1990, on a cablevision series, "The Art of...", which focused on "significant Connecticut artists and their work." (*The Western Way--A Newsletter of Western Connecticut State University*, Volume 3, Number 1: October 1, 1990.)

**Appendix E: Enrollment by Years, 1978 - 1993**

**Data for Fall Semesters**

	----- Undergraduate -----		Graduate:	
	<b>Full</b>	<b>Part Time</b>	<b>Full Time,</b>	
	<b><u>Time</u></b>	<b><u>Day and Evening</u></b>	<b><u>Part Time</u></b>	<b><u>Total</u></b>
1978-79	2706	1612	1178	5496
1979-80	2732	1636	1086	5454
1980-81	2737	1860	1059	5656
1981-82	2847	1965	986	5798
1982-83	3002	1967	1017	5986
1983-84	3053	2033	961	6047
1984-85	2971	1921	886	5778
1985-86	2827	1814	909	5550
1986-87	3020	1943	1026	5989
1987-88	3049	1959	1127	6135
1988-89	3158	2153	1069	6380
1989-90	3055	2229	1009	6293
1990-91	2965	2198	1082	6245
1991-92	2662	2130	1094	5886
1992-93	2723	1946	1061	5730

*Data obtained from Office of Institutional Research and Planning.*

## APPENDIX H: Historical Highlights

### Mostly 1978 - 1993

- 1962 -- The City of Danbury requests the state to help redevelop the college's midtown campus
- 1968 -- The state begins acquisition of land for expansion of Mid-town to the north and south
- 1969 -- Engineering studies of what is now Westside show the site to be satisfactory
- 1974 -- President Ruth A. Haas and Governor Thomas Meskill break ground at WSCU's second property, scheduled to become the Westside campus; after five years, the only work is "The Road to Nowhere," curving uphill from Mill Plain Road to the site--maybe--of Western's future expansion--we hope
- 1977 -- A Board of Higher Education, over a Board of Trustees for the State Colleges, replaces Commission on Higher Education
- The Board of Trustees reaches collective bargaining agreement with AAUP (for teachers) and ASFME (for non-teachers)
  - College reorganized into Schools of Arts and Sciences, Business & Public Administration, Professional Studies
- 1978 -- The Modern Languages Department sponsors its first spring break trip to Spain
- "WestConn Faculty Seminars," a series of short faculty talks
- 1979 -- Ground is broken for Westside classroom building
- 1980 -- Nathan Ancell and Ethan Allen Corporation donate \$600,000 to the School of Business
- 25% of state college undergraduates now in education
- 1981 -- President Bersi resigns; Business School Dean Stephen Feldman becomes new president
- Weather station starts reports to National Weather Service
  - Ground broken for Ella Grasso Hall, Westside dormitory
  - Perkin-Elmer donates computer center with 36 terminals
- 1982 -- Board of Governors replaces the Board of Higher Education
- Westside campus opens
  - Area corporations and individuals endow a Business School Library with a million dollars
- 1983 -- WCSC becomes Western Connecticut State University
- New \$364,000 computer center
  - Ella Grasso Dormitory opens
- 1984 -- Charles Ives Center for the Arts opens at Westside
- 1985 -- Dallas K. Beal replaces James A. Frost as President of the Connecticut State University --Boehringer Engleheim Corporation donates funds for a new biochemical laboratory
- Physical Education and Athletic Departments separate
  - Social Work program accredited --Local couple donates telescope --Historian John W. Tolland awarded an honorary degree of Doctor of Laws
- 1986 -- State Legislature eliminates Education major after 1990; students will major in a field and minor in Education
- President Emeritus Haas dies

- The University of Connecticut ends its MBA program in Danbury as Western develops one
- Business man-philanthropist Nathan S. Ansell awarded an honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters
- 1987 -- WCSU's College Bowl team wins regional title, places third nationally
- Honors Program begins
- IBM selects WestConn as the first school to have its Advanced Technology Classroom
- 1988 -- Radio station WXCI is nominated one of nation's five best collegiate stations
- Total enrollment hits all-time high of 6380
- 1989 -- All Shostakovich string quartets performed by Manhattan String Quartet
- First Oxford Union Debate held
- 1990 -- The IBM Advanced Technology Classroom goes into operation
- WSCU develops a Minority Scholarship Program for Danbury junior high schoolers
- First Alternate Spring Break
- First Honors Program graduates
- Biology Department wins state grant for a "Clean Room"
- Ground broken for Westside Fieldhouse/Convention Center
- 1991 -- Director of Minority Affairs made a full-time position
- First Family Weekend is held in spring
- Counselling Center begins support group for abuse victims
- 1992 -- President Feldman resigns; Dr. James R. Roach becomes new president
- New Health Service offices
- Nursing students present a Health Fair
- Russian poet Yvgeny Yevtushenko is on campus three days
- Quincentennial Celebration commemorates Columbus' first voyage; features faculty and student presentations; keynoter is Li-Zhi Fang, Chinese dissident and astronomer
- 1993 -- Addition of 22,000 square feet to Student Union is planned
- "Snow storm of Century" ties up school over a March weekend
- AIDS quilt is displayed in gymnasium
- "Unsung Heroes" of the school honored in *Echo's* last issue
- Arthur J. Skerker, Connecticut's Man of the Year, receives a Certificate of Achievement
- Position of Director of Multicultural Affairs established
- Ellen M. Hancock, a senior vice-president and general manager of IBM's networking system, is awarded an honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters
- Marion Anderson, renowned contralto, receives a posthumous honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters

## Appendix P: The Perils of Parking--or, The Melody Lingers On

**Nov. 7, 1970:** A thorough study of the parking problem contains 44 copy inches and seven photographs.

**Jan. 24, 1978:** The Inquiring Photographer--"What changes would you like to see around campus this semester?"

1. The parking lots are a mess.
2. The only complaint is the parking lot.

**WESTCONN 1978 (Yearbook):** The campus "occupies 28 acres and nine buildings and is 2000 parking spaces short per day."

**Sep. 12, 1978:** President Bersi calls the parking situation grievous," says it "will get worse before it gets better," and refers to spaceless car owners as "unfortunate souls."

**Sep. 19, 1978:** The Inquiring Photographer--"What is your solution to the parking problem?"

1. Build up if you can't build out.
2. Tear down some houses on Osborne and White Streets.
3. Mass transit for commuting students.
4. There is really no solution.

**Oct. 10, 1978:** Administrative Vice-President Carl Robinson says, "I've worked with parking problems here for seven years."

**Sep. 19, 1980:** "The Pit," the White Street parking area, will be ready, unpaved, this fall. The mud/muck must first settle.

**Mar. 3, 1981, headline:** "Ooze on down to the Westconn pit." The article says: "Four cars had to be pulled out of the mud."

**Oct. 27, 1981:** The Inquiring Photographer--"What would you do to solve the parking problem?"  
Freshman: I don't think it can be solved.

**Feb. 7, 1984:** The Pit is to be paved.

**Nov. 13, 1984:** Paul McLinden, a junior, says, "Looking for a parking space is always an adventure."

**Feb. 18, 1986, headline:** "Tickets and towing anger students." One picture caption: "Cars in the Pit were trapped on Thursday when one driver got stuck on ice at the exit."

**Sep. 9, 1986, headline:** "Salvation! The "Pit" is finally paved."

**Oct. 27, 1987, headline:** "Parking facilities a lost priority."

**Feb. 23, 1988, headline:** "Parking proposal: still in neutral."

**Sep. 24, 1991, headline:** "Parking still a joke on campus."

**L'envoi:** Dean F. Burton Cook, speaking to faculty around 1960: "A parking sticker is not a reservation; it is a hunting license."

## APPENDIX R: References and Acknowledgements

The main sources of events were Western's Yearbook, *WESTCONN* (sometimes spelled as two words), the school's student newspaper, *The Echo*, and former Connecticut State University President James A. Frost's thoughtful account, *The Establishment of Connecticut State University, 1965 - 1985: Notes and Reminiscences* (The Henry Barnard Foundation, New Britain, CT, 1991). WestConn's *Strategic Plan* for 1993 - 1998, completed at the end of the 1992 - 1993 academic year, contains clear statements of the school's objectives and hopes. The city's newspaper, *The News-Times*, pays a great deal of attention to the gown part of its town with detailed articles.

In addition, the author received the kind and uncomplaining assistance of so many staff and student librarians that it is not possible to try listing the "most" helpful. Department chairmen Robert Alberetti (Art), Lawrence Huntley (Music), and William Walton (Theater), were good enough to compile lists of their department's presentations to the school. Scott Ames, Sports Information Director, provided useful records of varsity sports. Other faculty members, whom the author has respected and counted as friends over his more than thirty years at the school, contributed snippets to fill in some of the gaps. Further, many of the "bad guys" (administrators)--particularly John Deegan--and their staffs were generous with time and information, even when it appeared they were actually working. Vice-President Philip Steinkrauss' able secretary, Mary Sergi, was pleasant at all of my interruptions, as were other secretaries and aides. Anyone offended at not being personally mentioned may be fortunate to have been omitted.

Finally, it must be confessed, a certain amount of material is from that most shaky of sources: personal memory. I have, however, tried to keep it to a minimum, in respect for Hemingway's view: "Memory, of course, is never true."

## Appendix S: Speakers

The complaint quoted at the outset of Appendix A is easily contradicted, again, by looking at a list of WCSU speakers. Men and women from a wide scope of human activities present to both students and faculty at WestConn their hopes, views, and experiences--from all portions of the spectrum.

Some visitors meet with specific classes, others have an audience based on a particular major, and still others are of interest not only to the school community but also to citizens of the surrounding towns. One industrial neighbor has supported the Union Carbide Corporation Lecture Series (UC), while the University Foundation has presented the Arconti Lecture Series (GA), in honor of Gino Arconti, Danbury's former and highly respected Mayor.

Again, the list is but partial.

- 1978 -- State Judge T. Clark Hull: the state's criminal justice system
- Pulitzer Prize-winning poetess Gwendolyn Brooks
  
- 1980 -- (GA) Arthur J. Goldberg, former US Supreme Court Justice, talking on the Supreme Court and the First Amendment
- Professor T. T. B. Koh, Singapore's Ambassador to the United Nations
  
- 1981 -- Sarah McClendoon, White House Correspondent since 1944
- (GA) Seymour Topping, managing editor of the *New York Times*, on the First Amendment
  
- 1982 -- (UC) Dr. Arthur B. Laffer, a professor at the University of Southern California, the creator of the Laffer Curve, and a member of President Reagan's Economic Advisory Board, debates "Reaganomics/Supply Side Economics: Are They Good for the Economy?" with Dr. Lester B. Thurow, Dean of MIT'S Sloan School of Business, *Newsweek* columnist, and TV commentator
  
- Andrew I. Killgore, longtime foreign service officer and retired US Ambassador to Qatar: "Reagan's Middle East Peace Proposal"
- John Tolland, author of books on World War II
- (GA) Earl W. Foell, Editor-in-Chief of the *Christian Science Monitor*
  
- 1983 -- GA: Martin Marty, Professor of Modern Christianity at the University of Chicago: "Separation of Church and State"
- (UC) Donald Rumsfeld, past Secretary of Defense, and Robert Reich, then Professor of Public Policy at Harvard and now Secretary of Labor, debate: "Does the Political System Permit Effective Management of the Economy?"
- Nobel Laureate James Tobin, a member of President Kennedy's Council of Economic Advisors: The American economy, taxes, and the deficit
- Yuri Antipov, Second Secretary to the USSR's Mission to the United Nations: "The US and the Soviet Union: Current Dilemmas of Power"
  
- 1984 -- (GA) Thomas J. Meskill, former Governor of Connecticut, now a U.S. Circuit Court Judge: "Whom Does the Fourth Amendment Protect Today?" and the exclusionary rule
- William Ratchford, local Congressman: the nuclear freeze and acid rain
  
- 1985 -- Civil Rights activist James Meredith, now a professor of Black History at the University of Mississippi, commemorating Black History month
- UC: Martin Feldman, chief economic advisor to President Reagan and Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisors, 1982-1984, and George Gilder, author of *Wealth and Poverty*, on: "The Impact of the Federal Deficit on Inflation, Interest Rates and the Economy"

- GA: Peter Came, a British historian from Danbury, England, visiting Danbury for its tricentennial celebration, tells of its English counterpart
  - New Congressman John Rowland talks to an American Government class about his work
  - The History Club sponsors a Vietnam experience series: it begins with a debate between two departmental members on whether the United States won or lost that war. Later, a panel discussion features five Vietnam veterans: one a Vietnamese, one an English Professor, the others students
  - UC: General Alexander Haig, former Secretary of State: "American Foreign Policy in Perspective"; he comments: "Well, reality confirms that a foreign policy problem is a problem because it is historically unsolvable"
- 1986 -- Senator Christopher J. Dodd and Representative Rowland meet with political science classes
- Dick Gregory speaks to a full house in Ives Auditorium.
  - In the spring, the WestConn History Department sponsors a series of seven lectures on US Foreign Policy designed by the Foreign Policy Association of New York. Topics include Europe, Central and Latin America, Israel, Star Wars, terrorism, and religion
  - Dr. Martin Luther King III speaks to over 300 people; in 1992, for Black History Month, he talks on the Civil Rights Movement and Racism
  - A three-part series on the POW-MIA issue
  - The graduation speaker is John B. Anderson, 1980 Presidential candidate
  - South African journalist Dumisani Kumalo: Apartheid, sanctions and divestment
  - (UC) Robert D. Kennedy, President and CEO of Union Carbide Corporation: "Who Needs a Corporate Crisis?"
- 1987 -- Julian Bond deplores apathy during Black History Month
- Former CIA agent John Stockwell: "The Secret Wars of the CIA"
  - Henry A. Kissinger discusses "Prospectus on the Current World Situation"
  - At lunchtime faculty seminars, presentations are made by members of the Astronomy, Biology, Education, English, History, Justice and Law Administration, Management Information Systems, and Music Departments
  - Dr. Gerald N. Tirozzi, State Education Commissioner: "Present and Future Conditions of Education in Connecticut"
  - (GA) Ralph Nader, under the title "Loss Prevention and the Insurance Function," covers "everything from law suits to AIDS and acid rain," including the insurance industry (*Echo*, May 5)
- 1988 -- During Black History Month, Cicely Tyson tells of black women in the film industry, recreating some of her roles
- On the fifth anniversary of the school's having become a university, Senator Weicker advocates more support for public education
  - (GA) Dr. Jacqueline Grennan Wexler, President of National Conference of Christians and Jews: "Religion and Schools in a Plural Society"
  - (UC) "Will the Stock Market Ever come Back?" asks Louis Rukeyser of "Wall Street Week"
  - Graduation speaker is Robert Keeshan ("Captain Kangaroo")
  - A presentation by members of Connecticut's ACLU results in a bit of acrimony during the question period
- 1989 -- (GA) Area businessmen and journalists join in a panel discussion of "Ethics in Business Journalism"
- Graduation speaker is Frank Deford, a senior writer for *Sports Illustrated*, president of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, and host of two morning National Public Radio shows
  - (UC) Arthur Laffler returns to debate, with Lawrence H. Summers, professor of



- Political Economy at Harvard and former economic advisor to the Congressional Budget Office: "Did Reaganomics Work?"
- 1990 -- Several lectures by Dr. W. Edward Deming, management expert and author, sponsored by the Management Department, both this year and next
- Two members of the African-American Drama Company take on roles of many individuals in reviewing 400 years of black presence in the US
  - Ethan Nadelmann, a consultant to the State Department's Narcotics Bureau, presents his views on drug decriminalization, enforcement problems, drug education and prevention
  - The 20th anniversary of Earth Day is celebrated with lectures and booths, plus, at the Ives Center, bird walks and exhibits of arts and crafts
  - Emanuel Azenberg, producer of most of Neil Simon's plays: "The Realities and Misconceptions in Attempting a Playwright's Career"
  - William DuBois, grandson of NAACP founder William DuBois: "Racism and U.S. Foreign Policy: The Code of Color"
  - William Styron, a guest of WestConn's English Society, discusses his interest in writing on political, social, and family authoritarianism
  - (GA) William Olds, of Connecticut's Civil Liberties Union, debates with Mark Soycher, of the state's Business and Industry Association: "Is Drug Testing in the Workplace Constitutional?"
- 1991 -- A forum on the Gulf War, with two WSCU professors, Rabbi Jerome Malino of the United Jewish Center in Danbury, and a sergeant from the Danbury recruiting office
- (UC) William F. Buckley, Jr., presents his views on life
  - A forum compares press coverage of the Gulf War to that of Vietnam
- John Briggs, Journalism Professor, co-author of *The Turbulent Mirror* among others: "Creativity's Processes and Myths"
  - (GA) State Supreme Court Justice T. Clark Hull: Connecticut's government and its Bill of Rights
  - Alex Seowtawa, a Zuni Pueblo artist, shows slides of and discusses his murals, which "preserve and document Zuni history" in Catholic missions (*Echo*, May 7)
  - The History Society presents "Victory Voices," a one man comedy/song act with World War II favorites, and, later, a concentration camp survivor
  - Jack Gerstein, a Harvard Medical School internist: "Rational Recovery, a Non-Spiritual Alternative to AA and Similar Programs"
  - This year's graduation speaker is Business School philanthropist Nathan Ancell
- 1992 -- Tatyana Mamanova, founder and leader of the Russian women's movement
- Tim Tuttle, expert on the John Kennedy assassination
  - Michael Jefferson: "Conditions of Black Society after 1960s; the Civil Rights Movement"
  - Dr. Maulana Ron Karenga, Professor of Black Studies at California State University, explains the seven values of Kwanza, a celebration and remembrance of African heritage and culture
- 1993 -- During Black History Month, there are four speakers:
1. President Franklyn G. Jennifer of Howard University discusses current problems facing Black Americans.
  2. John DelVecchio, writer on Vietnam, provokes a debate on racism during a class meeting
  3. The pastor of Danbury's New Hope Baptist Church moderates a panel on the role of the church in the Black community
  4. Wallace Terry, author of a novel based on oral histories of black soldiers in Vietnam, talks on the influence of the

- media, racial tensions, and American education
- The President and CEO of Ethan Allen International discusses the current business world, stressing motivation
- Yale Professor of English and American Studies Robert Burns Stepto: "Family Albums in Twentieth Century American Autobiography"
- Marian Chatfield-Taylor, an expert on sexual violence, and member of a team sent to Zagreb to document crimes against women and counsel women there
- Columbia University Professor Eric Foner: "African Americans, from the Civil War to the Civil Rights Movement"
- Patricia James-Jordan, New York State's Teacher of the Year, who talks with prospective teachers
- (GA) Celebrating the 250th anniversary of Thomas Jefferson's birth, Governor Weicker bases a talk on Jefferson's 1802 letter to the Danbury Baptist Association that contained the famous phrase: "a wall of separation between state and church"; the Governor emphasizes the role in American history of freedom of religion and speech

## APPENDIX V: VARSITY ATHLETICS

President Feldman's interest in sports was evidenced by his emphasis on winning teams, especially in the more popular spectator sports. In the summer after Dr. Feldman assumed the presidency, Paul Pasqualoni became WestConn's football coach. The team's best record since its inception in 1970 had been 4-4 in 1976. After starting 2-7, Pasqualoni's teams had four winning seasons, including 9-1 in 1984 and 10-2 in 1985. That year the team was co-champion of the New England Division III Football Conference, and reached the NCAA playoffs. Pasqualoni's four year record was 32-10, but with his departure for Syracuse in 1987, the football team reverted to its former level.

However, other teams kept WestConn on the sports map. In field hockey, Coach Carol Stiff led the team to a 9-4 record in 1984, when it was ranked in the top ten in its division in New England. In 1985 the team went 10-2-1, and reached the ECAC New England Tournament. Later, interest in the sport declined, and its last year was 1991.

Men's soccer began as a club sport in 1958 and after a few years achieved varsity status. Under Ted Hines in the early 1970s, it had several winning seasons, with a brilliant 12-1 in 1974. In 1988, Wayne Mones took the reins. Over five seasons, his teams have had a 70-21-7 record, and have gone to the NCAA tourneys the last four years.

In winter sports, a men's basketball team had started in 1935, when men first were encouraged to attend the school. Since records were first kept, in 1946-47, the team had only seven winning seasons. But 1984-1985 was Bob Campbell's first year, the first of nine successive winning seasons, nine post-season tournaments, and a 190-54 record. In 1989-1990, the team posted its best record, 28-2, and Coach Campbell was selected co-coach of the year in NCAA's Division III.

The women's basketball team had fair seasons until the arrival, for the 1981-1982 season, of Jody Rajcula, who had played at Southern Connecticut State University and, for two years, in the professional Women's Basketball League. After one losing season, her teams did well, in the fall of 1983

winning its first eight games. Going 21-5 in 1984-1985, the team first saw the light of an outside world: "an NCAA playoff birth" (*sic, The 1985 Colonial*). Under Coach Rajcula, the women's team has gone to tournaments for ten years, and in the spring of 1990, she was voted Coach of the Year by the Northeast Women's Basketball Association. In the spring of 1993, Rajcula was honored by the Athletic Department and the Alumni Association for her 200th win; her teams now have a 219-82 record.

Spring sports include baseball, whose success has fluctuated. Ken Capodice became coach in 1986; his teams now have a 144-94-1 record. In both 1990 and 1991, when the team won 56 while losing only 12 for an .882 average, it went to the ECAC New England Tournament. Under Ken, the team has won six Independent Athletic Conference Championships.

Since 1982, the fortunes of the women's softball team, under several coaches, have varied: it now has a 121-121 record. Under current Coach Alicia O'Brien-Osborne, the team won 15 of 27 in 1992, and went to the ECAC tourney for its first time. This past spring, on its way to a 19-16 record, the team began with eight consecutive victories.

Western also has a women's volleyball team and men's and women's tennis teams. With George McLean coaching both tennis teams, the women won 36 and lost but one match from 1988 - 1990, while the men's best year was 1989, when it had a 10-4 record. Women's soccer is scheduled to become a varsity sport in 1994.

In addition, there are also club ice hockey, lacrosse, rugby, and women's soccer teams. After its first season in 1991-1992, WCSU's hockey team was considered the New Team of the Year by the Metropolitan Collegiate Hockey Conference.

With the completion of the Westside Fieldhouse at hand, there are encouraging possibilities for other sports to arrive at WestConn. The pool awaits a swimming team, and if outdoor facilities are developed to match the track indoors, a track and field team may emerge. There will be no shortage of intercollegiate, club, and intramural sports for Western's athletes and spectators.

