



## UConn Prepares for 'Pup Quiz'

**By Doug Dalena**

Staff Writer

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STAMFORD -- The University of Connecticut just got a new guard dog, but he doesn't bark or bite.

This dog is one of 125 4-foot fiberglass fidos that will go on display throughout the state to celebrate the university's 125th anniversary.

The university's alumni association has embarked on a fundraiser for its scholarship fund and will place the fiberglass dogs -- huskies, of course -- throughout the state. Purchased by alumni groups, classes, corporations or individuals, the huskies will be decorated by a variety of different artists, said Kerrie Mills Landa, director of admissions at UConn-Stamford.

The UConn Husky Trail, as the statewide art exhibit is called, takes its name from similar public art projects that have placed fiberglass cows or whales in prominent locations.

The exhibit will run through the fall. Stamford's painted pooch will find a permanent home on the Broad Street campus, Landa said. Landa's husband, Pete, whose normal source of inspiration is East Asia, will paint Stamford's husky.

"I just shanghaied my husband," Mills Landa said. "This is a little different, painting the dog."

Pete Landa's task is painting 25 images on the dog that represent different programs, student groups and historical tidbits of the Stamford campus. Pete Landa hopes to finish painting the puppy next week.

The dog sports a base coat of white and light blue, pink tongue, blue nose and blue eyes. Staring benignly at Broad Street from the school atrium, it waits for the finer details and a heavy coat of shellack.

Every incoming freshman class will take a quiz requiring them to identify the 25 images on the dog, which Mills Landa has decided to call Pup Quiz.

Among the items painted on Pup Quiz will be the campus Center for Globalization and Commerce, Center for Judaic and Middle Eastern Studies and the Fairfield County Sports Hall of Fame. The history trivia includes the fact that the Stamford campus is on the site of a former Bloomingdale's -- before it went to the dogs.