



# The Currents

A Newsletter for Student Organizations

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**"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."**  
**Margaret Mead**

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## Check out this week's announcements !!!

### Looking for: Peer Leadership Instructors

Peer Leadership Instructors (PLIs) co-instruct a 1-credit FYE Leadership seminar (meets on Wednesdays), and participate in a class (meets on Fridays) to enhance their own leadership development. PLIs receive 3-credits for completing the program. This is a great opportunity for students to practice public-speaking and be in front of a class teaching other undergraduates. The information is available online at [www.leadership.uconn.edu](http://www.leadership.uconn.edu) in the "Peer Leadership Instructors" section.



### Featured Student Organization of the Week: Violence Against Women Prevention Program (VAWPP)

The Violence Against Women Prevention Program was formed in 1980 by three undergraduate students in response to a rape that occurred on campus. The members of the VAWPP are dedicated to promoting awareness of issues such as sexual assault, sexual harassment, images of women in the media, pornography, and sex role socialization. Relationship violence and healthy sexual attitudes are also addressed in this program. Workshops are presented to student athletes, residence halls, staff members, incoming students, and Greek groups. Students with an interest in gaining knowledge/experience around social equality, violence prevention, presentation/performance skills, gender and sexuality issues, multimedia project development and/or diversity issues will benefit from joining. MAVAW is a subgroup of VAWPP, in which men are trained as peer educators to present to all-male groups on issues of violence against women. Students have the opportunity to earn one credit per semester for their work in facilitating violence against women prevention workshops. They can also gain valuable experience in facilitating educational programs, developing multimedia projects, and helping other students to understand the dynamic that underlie violence in our society.

Enrollment for the Fall '07 semester is almost here and Women's Studies 271 (Seminar on Rape Education and Awareness) has spots available for thirty-five undergraduates! Earn credit and leadership experience by joining the Violence Against Women Prevention Program! All undergraduates, regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, or religious affiliation are invited to join. Sign up for WS271 on Peoplesoft for next fall and tell classmates and friends about how to become a VAWPP peer educator.

### Featured Student Organization Advisor: Kate Durant

Kate Durant is the Club Sports Program Advisor. This is Kate's first year at UConn, and she has approached the Club Sports Program with a very enthusiastic attitude. The Club Sports Council is composed of 31 diverse teams with over 700 participants. Kate organizes biweekly meetings with all of the teams and is in constant contact with team representatives. She has helped stabilize the program by revising many procedures, and making it easier for representatives of teams. The Club Sports Council holds many annual programs and events that Kate enthusiastically tries to improve. Kate says that the most rewarding part about being an advisor is "working with students and helping them accomplish their successes." Kate also thinks that "student involvement and engagement is an essential of a quality university experience. Involvement outside the classroom leads to students becoming knowledgeable, involved and well-rounded individuals." Students say has enhanced the program in so many ways in just a short time. Keep up the great work Kate!



### Now Accepting Nominations and Applications for Student Life Awards 2007

Students, faculty, and staff are invited to nominate fellow students or registered student organizations for one or more of the 2007 Student Life Awards at the University of Connecticut. These awards have been developed to recognize student contribution to, and leadership of the University community and beyond. Many awards have been specifically designed to recognize the contributions of undergraduate students at the Storrs campus, and may include a monetary reward. For Award Descriptions and On-Line Nomination Material go to [www.leadership.uconn.edu](http://www.leadership.uconn.edu) (click on Student Life Awards). Nominations must be received by March 16, 2007. Recipients will be recognized in April during Student Leadership Recognition Week!



### Student Union Reservations

The Student Union is instituting a new policy for room reservations for next year (2007-2008). The new policy is described at: <http://www.studentunion.uconn.edu/>. It is important to note that the deadline for "priority reservations," as described in the policy is Friday, March 2, 2007.

### Environmental Leadership Awards

The Office of Environmental Policy is now accepting nominations for the biennial Environmental Leadership Awards. These awards recognize student, faculty, staff, alumni and group contributions to increasing UConn's environmental performance. Time is running out - nominations are due March 15th! Please refer to the website at <http://www.ecohusky.uconn.edu/2007ELA.htm> for further details and nomination forms. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Melanie Murphy at (860)486-5773.

### Greek Week 2007!

Greek Week will be taking place the week on April 9th and the theme is the beach. Any Greek-lettered student organization interested in participating in Greek Week should contact Kellie Gore ([kellie.gore@uconn.edu](mailto:kellie.gore@uconn.edu)) or Matt Chase ([mdchase13@gmail.com](mailto:mdchase13@gmail.com)) by Wednesday, February 28th. If you would like to be on the Greek Week committee please contact Kellie or Matt as well.

### Greek Week 2007 T-Shirt Design Competition!

Interested in creating a t-shirt design for this year's Greek Week? The artist of the winning design will receive bonus points for their Greek Week team. All submissions must be submitted to either Kellie or Matt by Wednesday, February 28th. The design should incorporate both UConn and the theme. All questions can be directed to Kellie or Matt.

### Volunteers Needed! Check Out Spring 2007 Community Service Days!

Community Service Days are designed so that individual students and student organizations can participate in a service activity that is convenient and meets their interests. Past activities have included serving meals at a soup kitchen, planting and cleaning community gardens, or doing recreational and social activities with the elderly. An average of 8 Service Days are offered each semester, with 3 to 5 different service activities to choose from on each day. Without the help of volunteers, many non-profit agencies will not be able to complete their vital projects. Sign up now to get involved! More info at [http://www.studentactivities.uconn.edu/co\\_csd.php](http://www.studentactivities.uconn.edu/co_csd.php)

### The Currents Now on the Web!

From the Involvement Office Website ([www.getinvolved.uconn.edu](http://www.getinvolved.uconn.edu)) you can access *The Currents* by clicking on the "Student Organizations Support" link on the right, then clicking on "The Currents— Organization Newsletter" link on the right. You can directly access *The Currents* at the following link: [http://www.studentactivities.uconn.edu/inv\\_newsletter.html](http://www.studentactivities.uconn.edu/inv_newsletter.html).

### Showcase Your Organization!

*The Currents* will be highlighting student organizations in the "Featured Organization" section appearing in the upcoming issues. This section will include information about the organization's mission statement, goals, members, upcoming events, honors, awards, updates, and any photos. If you would like to feature your organization in *The Currents* please send information to [student0516@ad.uconn.edu](mailto:student0516@ad.uconn.edu).

### Deadline for the next issue of The Currents

The next issue of *The Currents* will be sent out on Monday, March 12. Please have all information for the inclusion of this issue sent to Connie at [student0516@ad.uconn.edu](mailto:student0516@ad.uconn.edu) by noon on Friday, March 9.