



# The Currents

A Newsletter for Student Organizations

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 3

SEPTEMBER 12, 2008

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

### Upcoming USG Funding Session: Monday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>

To apply for funding from the USG, your organization **must** be a Registered SOLID Tier II Organization and your COO or CFO must attend a **USG Informational Session** once per academic year.

\*Funding packets are always due one week before the session. All sessions are at 6pm in SU 324.\*\* Feel free to contact the Funding Board Chairperson or the USG Office with any questions at 860-486-3708 or email at [info@usg.uconn.edu](mailto:info@usg.uconn.edu).

### Discover Your Leadership Potential!



The Discovery Leadership Series is open to all students who want to begin their leadership journey. Participation in the program will be open to all students with little to no previous experience with leadership roles at the University. This program will encourage students to explore and develop their leadership skills through a series of workshops and events. Participants in the program will receive an intentional introduction to the University, its values, and structures along with the opportunity to explore, define and develop personal values. Participants will also be introduced to the basic concepts and principles of leadership and encouraged to take an active role in positively influencing the University community. Students who complete the program will receive a certificate of completion. More information, nominations and registration can be found by visiting [www.leadership.uconn.edu](http://www.leadership.uconn.edu).

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### Play Musical Chairs for Charity!



The Painted Turtle  
A Hole in the Wall Camp

On Saturday, September 27th, Delta Zeta will be hosting the 2nd Annual Musical Chairs Challenge! This classic game event will be at the Husky Village Basketball Courts (with rain-date Sunday Sept. 28<sup>th</sup>) at 1PM. There is only a \$50 registration fee per organization, and ALL of the proceeds will be donated to The Painted Turtle, summer camp located near Los Angeles, California. The Painted Turtle camps have been life-changing experiences for children with serious illnesses for years. If you'd like to sign up your organization or would like more information, please contact Brittany Osbon at [brittany.osbon@uconn.edu](mailto:brittany.osbon@uconn.edu).

### Showcase Your Organization or Advisor!

The Currents will be highlighting student organizations and advisors. If you would like to feature your organization in The Currents please send information, such as mission statement, goals, upcoming events, and any pictures to [student0785@ad.uconn.edu](mailto:student0785@ad.uconn.edu). If you would like to feature your advisor, e-mail your advisors name to [student0785@ad.uconn.edu](mailto:student0785@ad.uconn.edu).

### Deadline for the next issue of The Currents

The third issue of the Fall 2008 semester will be released on September 19, 2008. Please have all inclusions for the next issue sent to Andrea at [student0785@ad.uconn.edu](mailto:student0785@ad.uconn.edu) by next Thursday.

### The Amazing Race Comes To UConn!

The United Church of Christ UConn is holding a fundraiser to raise funds for their Alternative Spring Break trip to Louisiana to help with Hurricane Relief. The Amazing Race will be held on September 27th, with registration at 11:30 am and the event starting at 12pm at the Storrs Congregational Church. It costs \$20 per team of five (\$15 will go towards to trip and \$5 will go towards a cash pot). The first three teams to finish will win part of the cash pot (60% to the 1st team, 30% to 2nd and 10% to 3rd). This will be a fun event and would be great for groups and organizations to compete against each other while helping out a great cause. Please e-mail UCC UConn at [UCCUConn.AmazingRace@gmail.com](mailto:UCCUConn.AmazingRace@gmail.com) for more information or if you would like to register your group of five people.



### Student Organizations Collaborate to Promote Tolerance!



The Sikh Student Association with co-sponsorship from Asian American Cultural Center, African American Cultural Center, Asian American Studies Institute, Muslim Student Association and many more, present Divided We Fall: Americans in the Aftermath. This film is a powerful, feature-length documentary film based on hate violence in the aftermath of 9/11. The movie will be shown on Monday, September 15th at 7:00 PM in the Student Union Theater. The showing will be followed by a proactive discussion on hate crimes, race and religion, in an attempt at reducing ignorance and promoting tolerance of others. The discussion will be led by Dr. Saud Anwar, William Howe and Angela Rola. This presentation is open to the public, with free admission. Doors open at 6:30 PM. The film will begin promptly at 7 PM. For more information, please visit [www.dwf-film.com](http://www.dwf-film.com).

### Tip of the Week: Using Inclusive Language

There's nothing like being included to make people feel welcomed. And there's nothing like being excluded to get off on the wrong foot. Inclusive language sends the message that you value, accept and respect all people. Here are a few tips to consider during presentations and your everyday interactions:

- Don't comment on people's bodies directly or indirectly. You never know who may be struggling with **body image** issues.
- **Don't assume** that everyone comes from two parent households. And don't assume that everyone has a mother and a father.
- Use **male and female pronouns** interchangeably. When talking about someone in a position of influence (i.e. a professor or administrator), don't always use male pronouns. Conversely, don't always use female pronouns when referring to "traditionally female" positions (i.e. a nurse or secretary).
- **Direct eye contact** is considered disrespectful by some Asian cultures. Don't assume that anyone's averted gaze is a sign of disinterest or disrespect.
- Don't rely on "people-harming humor" to get an easy laugh. **Jokes about culture** could easily offend someone and make the environment unwelcoming.
- Make sure that when you talk about siblings, you **include only children** in the conversation.
- Don't assume that all **romantic relationships** are heterosexual. Figure out comfortable language that includes all different types of relationships.
- If someone is late, it may be a cultural thing rather than a purposeful lack of respect. **Don't criticize** them publicly.
- Don't just use student culture references that apply to traditional-aged students. **Non-traditional students** may feel excluded if you do.
- Use examples from a **variety of religions** and don't take it as a fact that everyone believes in God.
- Infuse examples and names from **different cultural backgrounds**, too.

From PaperClip Communications, Inc.

"The greatest obstacle to discovery is not ignorance—it is the illusion of knowledge."  
Daniel J. Boorstin

University of Connecticut

Department of Student Activities

Involvement Office

Student Union Room 302

[www.getINVOLVED.uconn.edu](http://www.getINVOLVED.uconn.edu)

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