



The Currents

A Newsletter for Student Organizations

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"Outstanding leaders go out of their way to boost the self-esteem of their personnel. If people believe in themselves, it's amazing what they can accomplish."

Sam Walton

University of Connecticut

Department of Student Activities

Involvement Office

Student Union Room 302

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Check out this week's announcements !!!

Upcoming USG Funding Session: Monday, September 22nd

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 due one week before the session. All sessions are at 6pm in SU 324.**

Feel free to contact the USG Office (SU 219) with any questions at 860-486-3708 or info@usg.uconn.edu.

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 for Hurricane Relief. The Amazing Race will be held on September 27th, with registration at 11:30am and the event starting at 12pm at the Storrs Congregational Church. It costs \$20 per team of five (\$15 will go towards the trip and \$5 will go towards a cash pot). The first three teams to finish will win part of the cash pot (60% to 1st, 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. For registration or more information, please e-mail UCCUConn.AmazingRace@gmail.com

NOTE: This is the correct email. Last week's newsletter's email was invalid. Please use the above hyphen-less email for this fantastic event!

Coins for a Cause!

The Coins for a Cause campaign is a collaboration between Community Outreach, Dining Services, and interested UConn student groups. This campaign looks to fundraise for non-profit groups by collecting change at donation boxes in all of the UC café's on campus. These are sent to the designated nonprofits at the end of the campaign. Community Outreach is currently looking to partner with student organizations for the Fall '08 and Spring '09 semesters. This is a quick and easy way to donate a substantial amount of money to a charity of your choice. Please contact Olafemi Hunter at student0840@ad.uconn.edu in order to get more information on requirements and applying to sponsor a charity for the month.



Photo from Mikedoel.com

Creative Writing Club Features Author:

Let It Go: a Gym for Creative Writers is featuring famed Lithuanian poet Jonas Zdanys at the Co-op at 6 p.m. on September 25. Zdanys has written books of poetry and translations from Lithuanian. Please contact Dawn Yang with any questions at aurorayin@gmail.com.

Showcase Your Organization or Advisor!

The Currents highlights student organizations and advisors. If you would like to feature your organization, please send information, such as mission statement, goals, upcoming events, and pictures to student0785@ad.uconn.edu. If you would like to feature your advisor, e-mail your advisors name to student0785@ad.uconn.edu.

Deadline for the next issue of The Currents

The fifth issue of the Fall 2008 semester will be released on September 26, 2008. Please have all inclusions for the next issue sent to Andrea at student0785@ad.uconn.edu by Thursday.

Red Cross Blood Drive!

The UCONN American Red Cross Club will be sponsoring a week long blood drive beginning Monday, September 29 through Friday, October 3. It is being held in the Wilbur Cross North Reading Room and appointments will be made in 15 minute intervals between 11:30am-4:30pm. Walk-ins are always welcome, however openings are not guaranteed. For your convenience, you can schedule an appointment at table setups in campus dining halls or send an email with your name, phone number, and times available to UCBloodCommittee@gmail.com. You also have the option of Instant Messaging that information to UConnBloodDrive. Set aside about an hour and a half of your time to donate, bring a form of picture ID (UConn ID is acceptable) and drink lots of fluids before your appointment. Your donation will help to save lives, and is very much appreciated. We hope to see you there!



Have Your Organization's Photo in the Student Union!

The Student Union will be hanging pictures of student organizations in the meeting rooms in order to emphasize the "student" in Student Union. All student organizations are invited to submit pictures to be considered. The SUBOG Policy Council will be selecting pictures to be enlarged and hung by the Student Union. The number of pictures selected will be determined by the size of the room and space available. Enlarged pictures will become the property of the Student Union.

Specifications: Pictures must be saved on a CD, which must contain a **minimum** of 15 pictures. Picture quality must be high enough to enlarge to 16 x 20 inches, and must be saved as Organization-Name_1, OrganizationName_2, etc. A complete application must be emailed or printed (if printing, submit with CD). CDs must be clearly labeled with the Organization Name, submitted to the Student Union Room 315. For the pdf application, please visit <http://www.studentunion.uconn.edu/docs/studentorgpicturereform.pdf>

No More Table Tents in the Union!

Attention all Student Organizations: Many of the organizations on and around campus advertise on the 4-sided table tents in the Student Union Food Court. According to the "Student Union Policy Council meeting on Wednesday, September 10th, the Policy Council decided to discontinue the Table Tent advertising program in the Food Court. The Council created a sub-committee to review the alternatives to the program." Once more information becomes available, the policies and changes to this advertising technique will be made known.

Tip of the Week: Respecting Diversity

There are many things to think about when working with the wide variety of people you'll encounter this year. Here are just a few...

What's in a Name?: There will probably be several occasions when you discuss hypothetical situations with your organization or other student leaders. In order to be inclusive, use names from a variety of cultures in your case studies, examples, and stories. It just might make a difference to the Hispanic woman in your group to hear "Maria" used sometimes instead of always hearing names like "Michael" and "Sally."

Let Go of Assumptions: Not all students come from two-parent families. Not all are in relationships. Not all have the same sexual orientation. Some may have children of their own back home. Not all will be of the same age. Not all went directly from high school to college. You get it...assumptions can alienate!

Steer Clear of Harmful Words: Expressions such as "that's so retarded" or "you're so gay" may have no impact. Yet, there's also the possibility that someone may silently feel excluded as a result of a seemingly benign comment. Trying to be funny or to "fit in" can inadvertently alienate the people you're trying to reach. Who knows if someone has a brother with a disability who suffers from the "retarded" label? Who knows if someone is struggling with coming out of the closet and hears the term "gay" used in a derogatory fashion? It's better not to take that potentially damaging chance.

From PaperClip Communications, Inc.