



The Currents

A Newsletter for Student Organizations

VOLUME 6, ISSUE 4

SEPTEMBER 25, 2009

Check out this week's announcements !!!

Upcoming USG Funding Session: Monday, October 5, 2009

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. Monday and Thursday sessions are at 11 a.m. and Tuesday and Wednesday sessions are at 2 p.m. All sessions are in SU 221.

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.



Metanoia on Preventing Violence Against Women!

Thanks to a committed and persistent group of student leaders, the University is holding a Metanoia on Preventing Violence Against Women the week of **Sunday, October 4th** beginning at 4 p.m. through **Friday, October 9th**.

Students asked and received approval for this Metanoia after the highly publicized sexual assaults on the Storrs campus last Fall. The date for the Metanoia is the 30 year anniversary of a Metanoia on violence in the community. While UConn has made significant progress on the programs and services that are available in the community to address violence against women, this event is an opportunity for us to have a more critical, reflective, and engaging dialogue about the behaviors, attitudes, and sometimes more subtle biases that contribute to sexual assault, dating/domestic violence, stalking, and sexual harassment. In addition, events are being planned at all of the regional campuses, and collaborations are taking place with the Schools of Law, Social Work, and Medicine. Information about all of the events will be available at the Metanoia website, www.metanoia.uconn.edu.



As we have been talking with various student groups on campus, we have asked four things from them (and would ask the same from you!):

- 1) Check out the website often for information and updates.
- 2) Attend the activities that are planned during the Metanoia.
- 3) Plan activities and programs with their student groups as part of this week.
- 4) If you don't see these discussions on your syllabus for the week of **October 4th**, ask your instructor about it.

Any questions or requests for additional information can be forwarded to metanoia@uconn.edu.

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UConn Red Cross Club Offers Blood Donation Opportunity!

The **UConn Red Cross Club** is holding a week long blood drive in the Wilbur Cross North Reading Room. Walk-ins are welcome, but for your convenience you can sign up for an appointment online at www.redcross.uconn.edu or www.givelife.org (code 1200). The schedule for the drive is as follows:



- Monday, September 28th: 11:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, September 29th: 11:00 a.m.-6:45 p.m.
- Wednesday, September 30th: 11:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
- Thursday, October 1st: 11:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
- Friday, October 2nd: 11:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

In order to be eligible to donate, you must be at least 17 years old, weigh at least 110 pounds, be in good health and present a photo ID (student ID is acceptable). Some tips for donating: Set aside at least 2 hours of time for your appointment; drink lots of fluids and hearty meals the day of your appointment; a week before your donation, incorporate iron rich foods into your diet (you can't donate if you're iron is too low, and this is especially common with college females). We look forward to seeing you at the drive, and we really appreciate your donation, which will save up to 3 lives!

"Nothing is predestined: The obstacles of your past can become the gateways that lead to new beginnings."

Ralph Blum

Featured Advisor of the Week:

Lee Aggison

Lee Aggison, Jr., PhD is the Associate Dean for the Graduate School and an Associate Professor-in-Residence in the Molecular Cell Biology Department. He's also the Director for the Professional Science Masters Program. When he's not working in those departments, he's advising Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., National Society of Black Engineers, Graduate Students of Color Association, and the Society for the Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science. Lee says that students are given the opportunity to sharpen the skills they'll need to become leaders later in life which include: how to conduct a meeting (parliamentary procedures/Robert's Rules of Order), developing interpersonal skills, understanding organizational structure/operations, and understanding the necessity of networking. He says these skills are best learned when put into practice, which is what getting involved on campus does! Lee especially enjoys being an advisor because "I am a big joker (possibly too much) and I get a big kick out of joking around with students." Lee has been fortunate enough to receive phone calls and E-mails from students who have moved on from UConn informing him of how much they appreciate the time and effort he put in to advising them. Lee's advice to those considering being an advisor is, "it is never too early or too late to become a mentor or advisor. I often tell students that the time for them to become mentors and advisors is NOW. Give good advice and give it freely with no expectations of anything in return."



Photo Taken by:
Darlington Abanulo

Showcase Your Advisor!

The Currents is looking to highlight exceptional advisors. If you would like to feature your advisor in The Currents please send your advisors name to student0884@ad.uconn.edu.

Deadline for the next issue of The Currents

The next issue of the Fall 2009 semester will be released on Friday, October 2, 2009. Please have all inclusions for the next issue sent to Michelle at student0884@ad.uconn.edu by Thursday, October 1, 2009 at noon.

Month of Kindness Invites All Student Organizations to Get Involved!

For those who are unfamiliar with **The Month of Kindness**, it is an organization on campus trying to promote diversity and cultural awareness through acts of kindness. The annual Month of Kindness takes place in November and they are hoping to get your organizations involved in their events. Last Monday, they held a meeting that was specifically geared toward organizations wishing to be involved with the Month of Kindness. If you have any questions or would like to host an event for the Month of Kindness, please email Sarah Maltese at sarah.maltese@uconn.edu by **Friday, October 9, 2009**.

Tip of the Week: Ice Breakers Part 2

- **Mad Liberation.** Create your own version of the popular "Mad Libs" game by simply grabbing a document of some kind. Delete a few of the nouns, adjectives and more and then ask group members to fill them with new words.
- **Change is in the Air.** Have members sit in a circle with their feet touching—nothing should be able to get past the perimeters of the circle. Grab a handful of change and explain that you know the year will bring many changes—as a group and as individuals. Say "Change is in the air!" and throw the handful of change upward. Tell your peers to scoop up the change nearest them and for each quarter they must talk about what change they are most looking forward to making.
- **Seussicality.** Ask someone in the group to shout out a word. Say the word is "issues". Then challenge each person to come up with a brief Dr. Seuss rhyme focused on that word. Give a few minutes for them to jot down their thoughts and ask everyone to share.
- **Pick a Pack.** During a lull in the action, ask everyone to write his or her name down on a slip of paper. Put all names in a hat and pick one. This person must pull an item from his/her backpack and explain how it represents him/her.

From PaperClip Communications, Inc.

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