



Updates from the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs

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Questions About the Division?

Please email questions about the Division to kellie.kirby@uconn.edu. We will do our best to answer your query via email or in the next edition of *Updates*.

Division-Wide Breakfast Earns Thank You from Student Leader by Kellie Kirby

On January 11, 2006, the Division-Wide Breakfast was held in South Ballroom. A new attendance record for the breakfast was set with over 500 members of the Division present to listen to Peter Nichols, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs, and Becky Henderson, President, Residence Hall Association (RHA) speak. Nichols enthusiastically thanked the Division for providing excellent essential services to UConn students. He also credited Student Affairs with contributing to the over 90% retention rate, which is an achievement that many other institutions aspire to. Following the Provost, Becky Henderson, RHA President, spoke of her great appreciation for staff that she has met throughout her 3 1/2 years here at UConn. From dining hall staff to the residence hall housekeeping staff, they have positively impacted her college experience.

Following Henderson's speech, John Saddleire highlighted several "fun facts" from across the Division which included the following:

- Over 800 students participated in the Balls of Fun and Create-a-Drink programs offered through the Office of Alcohol & Other Drug Education and Services.
- The Dean of Students Office successfully implemented a new collaborative initiative with Campus Police known as "Night Court" during Spring Weekend.
- Dining Services serves 129,000 meals per week.
- The Food Network filmed the Dining Services culinary competition to be aired at a later date.
- Last year, 1,762 cases of chicken nuggets were consumed.

Division of Student Affairs

One Division. Multiple Services. Students First.

Division of Student Affairs Guiding Principles

Collaboration

Our strength and impact on this campus as a coordinated team can and will be extraordinary.

Credibility & Confidence through Competence

Students, staff, and faculty gravitate to organizations and individuals who are knowledgeable and thoughtful in affairs.

Initiative

We create opportunities that encourage and reward new ideas.

Integrity

Play by the Rules

Individually and collectively, we meet the expectations and guidelines of our colleagues and the University.

Transparency

Our staff and constituents must know and understand the "what" and "why" of what we do. We are inclusive of those we serve in our planning and our operations.

Stewardship

Appropriately maintain and manage our resources.

Reliability

There is no greater compliment than being that person or team others can count on in both good and challenging times.

Excellent Services

Offer what we do in the best way possible, while thoughtfully balancing educational needs and customer service.

- Student Health Services filled over 18,000 prescriptions and provided 26,000 primary care visits.
- The Department of Residential Life housed 11,564 students on opening day – the highest number ever housed on campus and by the end of the semester the number had only dropped to 11,505 – another record!!!
- Career Services' annual Fall Career Fair in Gampel recorded an attendance of 941 students and 109 employers.
- The Center for Students with Disabilities planned and implemented the 5th Annual CSD Silver Challenge as part of the Month of Kindness observance, which raised \$654 to benefit the Connecticut Children's Medical Center.
- The CSD was open 78 hours during finals week and proctored 211 final exams.

Student Affairs Committee Updates

Capital Assets Committee by Logan Trimble

The Division of Student Affairs has oversight responsibilities for a significant amount of capital assets which are utilized to provide specific student service functions. Accordingly, Dr. John Saddlemire, Vice President for Student Affairs, created The Student Affairs Capital Assets Planning Committee to serve in a supporting role to the department heads and management staff of the Division.

In an effort to provide Division-wide support for various needs, an inventory of rooms within the residence halls was compiled for possible use by other departments within the Division, as well as to track the needs and usage of Residential Life's programs. This inventory consists of space such as former computer labs, recreation centers, and fitness centers, as well as former office suites, complex offices, etc.

The Committee has representation from several departments within the Division, including the Dean of Students Office, Dining Services, Residential Life, Student Health Services, Student Union and Campus Activities, Center for Students with Disabilities, and Information Technology.

The concept of space planning at the Division level was intriguing to the National Association of College and University Business Officers. We were fortunate to present our materials by means of a poster session at NACUBO's 2005 Annual Conference during the summer. The response from other schools was overwhelming admiration for our achievements.

Since its creation in September 2004, the Capital Assets Planning Committee has reallocated space for ACES, Health Education, the Students Affairs Information Technology Department, created judicial hearing rooms for the Dean of Students Office, and provided space for an Age Appropriate Program for E.O. Smith High School.

Upcoming Conferences

ACPA - www.myacpa.org

National Conference –
Indianapolis, Indiana

March 18 – 22, 2006

NASPA - www.naspa.org

National Conference –
Washington DC

March 11-15, 2006

ASJA - <http://asja.tamu.edu>

National Conference –
Clearwater, Florida

February 8-12, 2006

NACA - www.naca.org

National Conference – Boston,
Massachusetts

February 18-22, 2006

ACUHO-I - www.acuho-i.org

International Conference –
Atlanta, Georgia

June 25-27, 2006

NACE - www.nacweb.org

National Meeting – Anaheim,
California

May 30-June 2, 2006

In addition to evaluating and acting on several current space requests for the spring 2006 semester, the Committee has targeted specific tasks for the year. These goals include maintaining the space inventory records to provide critical data for planning, conducting a Division-wide utilization study that will result in a database of usage and suitability, and assigning ratings based on space quality for existing offices and service.

Student Affairs Information Technology Oversight Committee

by Tom Bloom

A new acronym has appeared in the roster of Division-level steering committees—SAITOC, or the Student Affairs Information Technology Oversight Committee. SAITOC was created to review and prioritize the work of the newly created Student Affairs Information Technology department (SAIT), in accordance with Division and department goals described in the Division Strategic Plan. Specifically, the committee is charged with the following duties:

- Create a process, in consultation with SAIT, for receiving and recording project requests from Student Affairs departments.
- Create a timely process for reviewing all department/unit authorized IT related projects, based on the Division's Critical Issues as defined by the Strategic Planning Committee.
- Prioritize IT projects for the SAIT department.
- Define IT Service Priorities for Division.

Approximately 50 high priority information technology projects have been proposed thus far by Student Affairs departments. Staff from SAIT and the requesting department work together to define each project using a standard set of criteria. SAITOC members then review each project request to determine its priority on the SAIT project working list.

At its biweekly meetings, SAITOC has lively discussions about the changes occurring in Division IT operations. Although each department has a representative on the committee, meetings focus on the "big picture", or on determining what IT activities best fill Division needs and align with Strategic Plan goals. Of the projects reviewed thus far by SAITOC, the highest priority has been given to replacing the ancient (and unsupported) AbleAide application used by the Center for Students with Disabilities. An online readmission application for use by the Dean of Students office has also been ranked high on the SAIT project list. Future committee meetings will review projects submitted by Student Activities, Residential Life, Student Health Services, and the Vice President's office.

Project review procedures, committee membership, project lists, and meeting minutes can be found on the web at

<http://www.committees.sa.uconn.edu/itoc/>.

Dates to Remember

January 2006

January 31st – 5:00pm-7:00pm

Peer Education Information

Fair (CUE Atrium/Lobby)

February 2006

February 4th

All of the Above Conference

(Bridgewater State University)

February 10th

One Ton Sundae

(Announcement of 125th

Anniversary ice cream flavor)

March 2006

March 2nd-3rd

HESA Interview Days

March 5th-11th

Spring Recess

Attention Date Change

March 9th – Noon

Employee Appreciation

Luncheon

Strategic Planning Committee by Nancy Bilmes & John Sears

The Strategic Planning Committee has been meeting through the fall semester and will continue to meet in the spring. The committee had some new members join early last semester and recently completed reading a book on strategic planning in higher education. Now that the Division is working on the current plan released last April, the Committee's focus has shifted to collecting information on strategic planning initiatives across the Division as well as information on what other student affairs divisions are doing across the country. As we embark on this research, we encourage you to continue to support the current plan through individual and departmental efforts, and to keep in touch with us regarding questions, concerns or ideas that you may have pertaining to the Division's "big" plan. E-mail the committee co-chairs John or Nancy at john.sears@uconn.edu or nancy.bilmes@uconn.edu.

Finding Out What Students Think by Cynthia F. Jones

As the spring semester gets underway, each department in the Division will begin (or continue implementation of) the process of gathering data from students via student satisfaction surveys. Although some departments have conducted feedback surveys in the past, the new and updated satisfaction surveys will contain some common questions across the Division to elicit student feedback on quality, efficiency, and other areas identified as key to good client or customer service. If you would like to see the instrument being used, please see your department representative (contact your department head for this information) responsible for this project.

How Housing Selection Really Works by Sam Miller

If your department would like to know more about the housing selection process that students participate in, the Department of Residential Life will take their presentation to your staff to explain how this system works. To schedule a presentation please contact Maureen Armstrong at 6-2926 or maureen.armstrong@uconn.edu.

Brick of the Week Awards by Kellie Kirby

Nominations

Brick of the Week nominations are continuing to trickle in. In order to make this an easier and more streamlined process, the Brick Committee would like to ask that nominations include the following:

1. Name, department, and campus address of the person nominated. This will ensure that their brick is delivered in an accurate and timely fashion.
2. Include *what* Guiding Principle(s) they demonstrated and *how* they demonstrated it in just a few sentences. These comments will be included in their award letter that accompanies their brick.

All nominators will remain anonymous unless they choose to inform the recipient. The Division's Guiding Principles can be found on the second page of this newsletter and on the Strategic Planning Task Force website at <http://www.committees.sa.uconn.edu/saplan/>. Please email Kellie Kirby at kellie.kirby@uconn.edu if you have any questions or concerns.

Brick Recipients

The following individuals have been recognized as making contributions to both the Division and UConn by their peers.

Residential Life

Wanda Tyler Alisa Gellar

Becky Henderson Jerry Cole

Student Activities & Student Union

Allison Foster

Dining Services

Roselyn Lamont

Professional Accomplishments Within the Division

Past Presentation

Department: Residential Life, Student Affairs Information Technology
Conference: Adirondack Users Group: Philadelphia, PA – September 2005

Accomplishment: Conference presentation – *Scaling the Adirondacks, not the Rockies. Implementing The Housing Director at UConn*

Participants: Rae Cabral, Nikki Cole, Dan Doerr, Valerie Puffet-Michel

Future Presentations/Accomplishments

Department: One Card Office

Conference: National Association of Campus Card Users: San Diego, CA
March 29 - April 1

Accomplishment: Conference proposal accepted – *Birth of a Card Office*

Participants: Ruth Francis

Department: Student Activities, Programs Office

Conference: All of the Above Conference: Bridgewater State University –
February 4th.

Accomplishment: Conference proposal accepted – *Grad's Anatomy: Finding the Right Program for You*

Participants: Josh Brandfon

Departments: Alcohol & Other Drug Education & Services, Residential Life, Vice President for Student Affairs Office

Conference: All of the Above Conference: Bridgewater State University –
February 4th.

Accomplishment: Conference proposal accepted – *Student Development Theories in College Films*

Participants: Sarah Clegg, Gudrun Haider, Kellie Kirby

Department: Career Services

Conference: All of the Above Conference: Bridgewater State University – February 4th.

Accomplishment: Conference proposal accepted – *Keys to Successful Interviewing*

Participants: Melissa Berkey, Sarah Miller

Department: Residential Life

Conference: All of the Above Conference: Bridgewater State University – February 4th.

Accomplishment: Conference proposal accepted – *What's Your Type? Using the MBTI as a Tool for Staff Development*

Participants: Victoria Farris

Department: Senior Year Experience

Conference: National Association of Student Personnel Administrators: Washington, DC – March 11-15th

Accomplishment: Recipient of New Professionals and Graduate Students Knowledge Community Registration Scholarship

Award Recipient: Jen Rowley

Please send all information regarding professional accomplishments to kellie.kirby@uconn.edu. Include name, title, department, accomplishment, and any other relevant details in your email.

Employee Appreciation Luncheon

The Employee Appreciation Luncheon has been moved to March 9th to coincide with Employee Appreciation Week. In addition to the honorees listed in December, we also have the following employees who have achieved significant years of service here at UConn.

Dining Services

Orysia Krakowiecki, 5 Years

Jose Deynes, 5 Years

Nelly Oliver, 5 Years

Patricia DelMastro, 5 Years

Aneudy Rodriguez, 5 Years

Ben Broderick, 5 Years

Beverly Krukoff, 5 Years

Teri Atwood, 5 Years

Thomas Graubaum, 5 Years

Carmen Madera, 5 Years

Nancy Schweitzer, 5 Years

Diana Evans, 5 Years

Kathy Cyr, 5 Years

Sheila Collins, 5 Years

Bidney Shimkus, 5 Years

Jeffrey Collins, 10 Years

Helen Mesi, 10 Years

Glenda Nieves, 10 Years

Luz Fernandez, 5 Years

Betty Nazario, 5 Years

Jose Aponte, 5 Years

Shirley Spinnato, 5 Years

Edith Serrano, 5 Years

Carol Salois, 5 Years

Ruben Ramos, 5 Years

Cindy Dancosse, 5 Years

Michael Kapsch, 5 Years

Samuel Nieves, 5 Years

Robert Watson, 5 Years

Stacey Melanson, 5 Years

Jeffrey Hill, 5 Years

Kathy Brierly, 5 Years

Margaret Comeau, 10 Years

Penelope Corcoran, 10 Years

Jason Reynolds, 10 Years

Sue Monroe, 10 Years

Chris Hines, 10 Years
Zemei ye, 15 Years
Richard Martin, 15 Years
Juliette Elliot, 20 Years
Lou Levy, 25 Years

Ray Testa, 10 Years
Grace Danso, 15 Years
Dawn Meduna, 15 Years
Laurie Squier, 20 Years
Robert Zannoni, 25 Years

Information/Contact Us

<http://www.dsa.uconn.edu>

University of Connecticut

Office of the Vice President for
Student Affairs

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860.486.2265

860.486.1194 fax

Employment Opportunities Within the Division

The following positions are currently posted on the Division website:

Posted 1-20-06 – [Career Counselor](#) (Career Services) UCP IV

Posted 1-6-06 – [Director of Fraternity/Sorority Life](#) (Student Activities)
UCP VIII

Posted 1-6-06 – [Associate Dean of Students/Director of Student
Activities](#) (Student Activities) MGMT

Posted 12-27-05 – [Director Senior Year Experience Programs](#) (Career
Services) UCP VIII

Posted 9-7-05 – [Director of the Student Union](#) (Student Union) MGMT

Posted 11-17-05 – [Student Affairs System Administrator](#) (SAIT) UCP VII

Posted 11-17-05 – [Student Affairs IT Application Developer](#) (SAIT) UCP
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Please visit the Division's website at www.dsa.uconn.edu for more
information.

Division-Wide Events & Announcements

The Division of Student Affairs Employee Appreciation Luncheon will be held on Thursday, March 9th. More information will follow to those who are being honored.
