Welcome!

A Letter from the President

Dear Friends,

At our annual Student Life Awards event, we recognize some of our outstanding UConn student leaders for their efforts to make this University a better place. I join you in congratulating this afternoon’s honored students. It is important that we applaud many other students who have contributed time, ideas, effort and just plain hard work to give back to their community, to make a difference over the past academic year.

After all, UConn is your home away from home, your new neighborhood, your new world. One of public education’s goals is to prepare our students for participation in their own communities. This is the true test of what we’ve learned, and today we honor our student leaders who have taken this message to heart.

Without students, UConn would have little purpose. Without strong student leadership, UConn would be a diminished university. Students are the reason I’ve dedicated my life to higher education, and why I’m so pleased to congratulate our Student Life Awards finalists and recipients this afternoon.

Michael J. Hogan
President

President Michael J. Hogan

Michael J. Hogan became the 14th President of the University of Connecticut on September 14, 2007. President Hogan came to UConn from The University of Iowa where he served as Executive Vice President and Provost and F. Wendell Miller Professor of History from 2004-2007. Before his move to Iowa, he was a tenured Professor of History at The Ohio State University, where he served as chair of the Department of History from 1993 to 1999, as Dean of the College of Humanities from 1999 to 2003, and as executive dean of the Colleges of the Arts and Sciences from July, 2001, during which time the position of Executive Dean evolved into a separate, free-standing office with oversight of five colleges and forty-one departments. Born and raised in Waterloo, Iowa, President Hogan earned his B.A. degree at the University of Northern Iowa, where he majored in English with minors in History and Classics; his M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in History were conferred by The University of Iowa.
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A Message from the Student Life Awards Committee Chair

On behalf of the Department of Student Activities, I’d like to welcome you to the 2010 University of Connecticut Student Life Awards – recognizing outstanding contributions to and leadership of the University community! The campus was very much alive this past year with student involvement, service, leadership and pride! The student engagement represented by all of this year’s nominations not only created an environment of diverse opportunities and activities but also served to enrich the campus environment and enhance student learning.

The process and work of recognizing all of our outstanding student leaders and bringing everyone together today began at the start of this academic year and has continued non-stop throughout the past eight months. Below is the list of the members of our 2010 Selection Committee, who spent a significant amount of time reviewing nomination material and interviewing finalists. It is also important to recognize the many folks who have played a role behind the scenes in everything that culminates in today’s event. Therefore a special thanks to Ben Cannon, Anna Milot, Mary Shaw, Lillian Palacios, Janella Mildrexler, Dr. Christine Wilson and the entire staff in the Office of Involvement and Leadership Programs.

Finally, a note of particular thanks to our donors and award sponsors who have so generously supported this program, and more importantly our students. You are invited to learn more about all of our donors and sponsors on the following pages.

Congratulations to all of the nominees and thanks for making the University of Connecticut a vibrant campus community in which to live and learn.

Dr. Joseph P. Briody
University of Connecticut
2010 Student Life Awards Committee Chair

Student Life Awards Selection Committee

Melissa Arroyo, Programs Office
Nancy Bilmes, Career Services
Ben Cannon, Leadership Programs
Miguel Colon, Community Outreach
Carl Dean, Student Support Services
Tom Deans, English
Kathy Fischer, Women’s Center
Melissa Foreman, Learning Communities
Mark Flynn, Programs Office
Paul Gaines, Veteran’s Services
Rebecca Gates, Honors Program
Carrie Graham, Student Support Services
Leo Lachut, Student Support Services
Stefanie Landsman, VPSA
Christie LeTarte, HESA
Bruce Marshall, Men’s Hockey
Cindy Morrissette, Student Activities
Alexander Russell, Computer Science and Engineering
John Sears, Residential Life
Alyssa Stoner, Leadership Programs
Julia Stulock, Club Sports
Dana Wilder, Office of the Vice Provost

A special thanks to all of the members of this year’s Student Life Awards Selection Committee for their time and commitment to recognizing and supporting student contribution to and leadership of the University community.
Matthew B. Schechter Scholarship

This award is made annually to a deserving student on the basis of citizenship, scholarship, contribution to the University, and contributions to the causes of human rights and human dignity, civil liberties and freedom of thought. The family and friends of Matthew B. Schechter established this scholarship in 1969.

Recipient

Romana Haider
Romana Haider, an individualized major in Human Rights, is a member of the 2010 Leadership Legacy cohort. She is also a member of the Honors Council, for which she serves as the Community Service Chair, a team leader for their alternative break trip to Immokalee, Florida, and was a participant in their alternative break trip to New Orleans. Romana works as a member of the Global Leadership Commission, bringing speakers to campus to present on leadership topics, works with the Catholic Charities Immigration and Refugee Services, and serves as the Assistant Director for the Community Outreach Language and Literacy Cross-Cultural Connections.

Organization Community Service Award

This award honors a student organization that has initiated and/or actively engaged in a community service project. The project may be a single event or a series of activities. The Department of Athletics is the proud sponsor of the Organization Community Service Award.

Recipient

HOLDUP!
HOLDUP!, also known as Husky Outreach for Leadership Development, Understanding, and Pride, was conceived of and started three years ago by the students in the Leadership Learning Community and today remains a completely student-led program. Members make weekly visits to high schools and facilitate interactive leadership workshops, designed specifically for at-risk students throughout Connecticut. From East Hartford to Stafford Springs, the members of HOLDUP! develop and present workshops for each school, tailoring the content to the needs of the students. The program is only three years old, and yet has grown to include over three dozen UConn students working with several high schools throughout the region.
Outstanding Graduate /Teaching Assistant Award

This award recognizes a Graduate Assistant who goes above and beyond their assigned responsibilities by contributing their time, energy, and talents to further the growth and development of undergraduate students on campus. The Office of the Vice Provost for Research and Graduate Education is the proud sponsor of this award.

Recipient

Christie Marie Letarte

Christie Letarte has been a Graduate Assistant for Residential Life, serving as an Assistant Hall Director for one and a half years. She has worked for the students living in Mansfield Apartments as well as in East Campus, fighting to improve living conditions. She has been effective in her role by: creating better internet access, adding more lights in particularly dark areas, advocating for emergency blue phones, and improving snow and ice removal procedures. Christie has also contributed through her practicum experiences in the Office of Community Standards and in the area of risk management working with the attorney for the Division of Student Affairs. For the past two years, Christie has also volunteered as a team leader in the Student Life Awards selection process.

Martha and Albert Cohen Scholarship for Enhancing Community

This scholarship is awarded to undergraduate students who have demonstrated a significant active commitment to eliminating bigotry, prejudice, and discrimination and whose actions have fostered tolerance and understanding among people. This scholarship was established and sponsored by Stephen I. Cohen (’65) in honor of his parents Martha and Albert Cohen.

Recipient

Joseph C. Antelmi

Joseph, an honors student senior majoring in Economics, is co-coordinator for the Hunger and Homelessness campaign. In his role, he raised $25,000 for area homeless shelters, has planned ConnPIRG’s first state day conference, and is involved with the Connecticut Association for Human Services (CAHS), where he has an internship. In addition to winning the Provost’s Award for Excellence in Public Engagement this past December, he was named a semi-finalist for the Emerson Hunger Fellowship, was nominated for the Truman, Rhodes, and Marshall and Mitchell Scholarships, and is a member of the University’s 2009 Leadership Legacy Cohort.
Student Organization Advocacy Award

This award honors an outstanding student organization for the achievement of a remarkable goal or completion of a major project that significantly impacted students through advocacy or awareness initiatives. The Division of Student Affairs is the proud sponsor of the Student Organization Advocacy Award.

Recipient

Residence Hall Association

Following two sexual assaults of UConn students, the Residence Hall Association took the initiative to contact student groups all over campus encouraging them to raise awareness about sexual assault. With the help of the Women’s Center and Violence Against Women Prevention Program (VAWPP), the “What Will You Do Rally” (WWYD) was produced, asking students what they will do to combat the campus culture which allows for sexual assault. This program was later brought to regional and national conferences and encouraged other colleges and universities to recognize this important issue and to host similar programs.

Spirer/Dueker Student Humanitarian Achievement Award

This award honors an undergraduate student on a University of Connecticut campus for outstanding contributions to public service. The award was established by Louise and Herbert Spirer and Marilyn Dueker, retired faculty members from the University of Connecticut-Stamford campus.

Recipient

Katelyn Donovan

Katelyn has worked with Community Outreach over the past two years on developing and implementing Special Olympics programming for undergraduate students. She began with Community Outreach as a committee member for their Special Olympics Soccer tournament, has since organized the Husky Soccer Classic Invitational, and this year is in charge of planning a Special Olympics Summit. Additionally, Katelyn is involved in supporting and implementing a program titled “Stop the R Word,” a campaign that raises awareness of the importance of using and supporting inclusive language when referencing individuals with developmental/intellectual disabilities.
Husky Pride Award

This award honors an organization for outstanding external representation of the pride and spirit associated with being a part of the University of Connecticut. The Division of Student Affairs is the proud sponsor of the Husky Pride Award.

Recipient

West Indian Student Awareness Organization (WISAO)

As the host of an event in the Student Union on the night Jasper Howard was killed, the West Indian Student Awareness Organization found themselves in the center of one of the most tragic events to happen in the history of UConn. In the presence of unfounded criticism, WISAO members demonstrated professionalism and poise as the University mourned a huge and tragic loss. They led thousands of students in a candlelight vigil march from the Student Union to Mirror Lake, spoke at a memorial service, and donated the proceeds of the event to the Howard family.

International Student Leadership Award

This award recognizes an individual student(s) who has actively engaged in activities that foster the integration of international students and their experiences and cultures into the campus community in a visible and meaningful way. The Graduate Residences Association is a proud sponsor of the International Student Leadership Award.

Recipient

Lukas Kailimang

Lukas is an international student from Indonesia and is enrolled as a graduate student in the School Counseling program. As a representative of the Indonesian Student Association (ISA), he participated in the 2009 WorldFest event, sponsored by UConn’s Department of International Services and Programs (DISP). He also served as a senator in the Graduate Student Senate, where he supported the formation of the “International Student Issues Committee.” Additionally, Lucas has served as a board member to the Graduate Student Christian Fellowship (GSCF), and assisted PERMIAS, the Indonesian Student Organization, in both cases helping to integrate international students into the UConn community.
Edward Victor Gant Scholarship

The Edward Victor Gant Scholarship was established by the Board of Trustees and the family and friends of Edward V. Gant in 1979 and was first awarded in 1987. The scholarship recognizes academic excellence, professional potential, dedicated service, and exemplary integrity.

Finalists

Kevin Burgio
Kevin Burgio, an honors student majoring in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, spent time in the Air Force, and was a top graduate of the Community College of the United States Air Force before coming to UConn. Kevin is involved in the Audubon Society and has even launched his own website on the monk parakeets to teach school children about his research; which has won him prestigious awards and grants over the past few years. Finally, Kevin is a Goldwater National Scholar, a two-time Babbidge Scholar, a New England Scholar, and a University Scholar.

Anuja Shripad Kanaskar
Anuja is an honors student and a University Scholar, studying Neuroscience, Psychology, and Cognitive Science. Concentrating on dyslexia, her research has led to an internship at Yale where they are uncovering a gene associated with this learning disability. At UConn, she founded the Cognitive Science Club, works with Joe LoTurco in Physiology and Neurobiology to further study the brain, and is the program director for English as a Second Language. She has also worked with schizophrenia patients at the West Haven, VA hospital, and has a variety of international experiences in Greece, Spain, Australia and India, where she was involved in advocating literacy to underprivileged children.

Alexandra Kuehnle
Alexandra has pursued an Individualized Major in Security Studies to supplement her Political Science and Human Rights concentration. She is a New England Scholar, a Truman Scholarship Finalist, and President of the Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society. Additionally, Alex is a member of the 2010 Leadership Legacy Experience here at UConn and the founder and president of the UConn Silver Wings organization. Alex has been a Community Assistant, has worked for the Center for Students with Disabilities, served as Public Relations Coordinator and Communications Director in the Office of Community Outreach, and volunteers as an Assisting Minister and substitute teacher.

Program of the Year Award

This award honors an organization or individual responsible for the development and/or execution of an event/program that significantly enhanced the social, recreational, educational, and/or cultural life of students and the general community at this institution. The Department of Athletics is the proud sponsor of the Program of the Year Award.

Recipient

Residence Hall Association
One of the functions of the University of Connecticut Residence Hall Association is to provide original, diverse, social, and educational programming to benefit students. This year, the RHA held its first annual “UConn Scavenger Hunt.” The program, open to all UConn students, challenged teams of students to search the university campus for one-hundred different items and locations, including campus landmarks, student organizations, university offices, faculty and staff, specific classrooms, and other places and landmarks on campus that define what it means to be a Husky. Students visited everything that makes UConn special, from the Q-Center to President Mike Hogan himself.
Student Organization Advisor Award

This award recognizes an advisor of a student organization who has provided outstanding service and advisement to an organization. The Division of Student Affairs is the proud sponsor of the Student Organization Advisor Award.

Recipient

**Michael Christopher Metzger**

Michael is an advisor to Wishmakers on Campus, as well as to the Disney College Program Alumni Association. He successfully advocated to have credit granted to students involved in the Disney College Program. He scheduled meetings with the executive board, participated at events, and provided educational materials on running a student organization and planning events. His efforts have aided these organizations in putting on a variety of events for the Make-A-Wish Foundation, hosting informational sessions for students about the Disney College Program, and working towards securing an educational partnership with the Walt Disney Company for students participating in the program.

Student Multicultural Award

First given in 1997, this award recognizes individual students who have contributed to encouraging and enhancing the diversity of any aspect of the University Community at the Storrs Campus. The Office of the Vice Provost for Multicultural and International Affairs is the proud sponsor of the Student Multicultural Award.

Finalists

**Vilma Rodrigues-Silva**

Vilma, a Sociology major, has served as Student Support Services’ (SSS) Peer Advisor, a Residential Assistant, and this year serves as a peer advisor to over 30 students. As a scholarship recipient, Vilma represented UConn abroad at the University of Liverpool’s Widening Participation Program, where she promoted global citizenship. Additionally, she was one of two students invited to return as an intern with the program, providing outreach and support for re-entry into the British educational system by unemployed and young parents. She is also involved in the Husky Sport program, the UConn Alumni Association, and has served as a co-teacher for the Peer Counseling course.

**Serginho Sheldon Walker**

Serginho is the student manager of the African American Cultural Center, and is planning the development of the Joint Student Leadership Conference sponsored by various organizations on campus. Serginho has served as: a UConn Husky Ambassador, an Assistant Teacher for the Peer African American Sustaining Success (PAASS) Program, a First Year Experience (FYE) Mentor, a presentation leader for the UConn True Colors Conference for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and/or queer (LGBTQ) students, and an educational coordinator for UConn Face Aids. Additionally, Serginho has worked with Habitat for Humanity in Bridgeport, CT., and as a research assistant for the Center for Health, Intervention, and Prevention (CHIP).
Willis N. Hawley Service and Leadership Award

This award recognizes individual student veterans who have made significant contributions to the University community through leadership and service during their tenure as a student. The Department of Student Activities is the sponsor of this award.

Recipient

**Dana Clark Neely**

Prior to arriving at UConn, Dana served aboard the aircraft carrier USS Enterprise which participated in Operation Iraqi Freedom. As Chief Operations Officer to the Veteran Students Organization, he helped to rewrite their constitution, its mission statement, and reach out to other veterans who were disengaged with the organization as well as with the university. Additionally, Dana is involved in Community Outreach programs, and assists veterans in understanding the complicated veterans’ benefits system. Beyond UConn, Dana has connected with the Veterans Homeless Shelter in Rocky Hill, CT and is working on participating in the Navy’s Transition Adjustment Program, helping fellow veterans prepare for life after the service.

Individual Husky Pride Award

This award honors an individual for outstanding external representation of the pride and spirit associated with being a part of the University of Connecticut. The UConn Co-op is the proud sponsor of the Individual Husky Pride Award.

Finalists

**Eric Bouchard**

Eric is pursuing a degree in Economics and has committed to George Mason University to continue his education in the field of Student Affairs. Eric chaired the Student Union Board of Governors (SUBOG) Sports Promotion Committee which is dedicated to engaging the UConn community in support of athletic teams. This Spring, Eric coordinated with several departments on campus to bring civil rights speaker Tim Wise to campus. This semester, Eric is serving as a Peer Leadership Instructor where he is responsible for teaching a leadership seminar to a class of freshman and sophomore students.

**Cindy Luo**

Cindy Luo is a double major in Linguistics/Philosophy and Classics and Ancient Mediterranean Studies with a triple minor in English, Women’s Studies, and Mathematics. Cindy is a peer mentor to incoming freshmen through the student group Peer Allies Through Honors and a coordinator for the Honors Initiative for Prospective Students. Cindy is also involved with the Symphony Orchestra, Chamber Ensemble, Fencing Club, and Debate Team. In addition, Cindy is also team captain for the university Mock Trial Team, works as a staff columnist for the Daily Campus, and sits on the newspaper’s Editorial Board.

**Andrew Taylor**

Andrew, a Civil Engineering major has been a member of the Student Union Board of Governors (SUBOG) since his first year at UConn. As member and chair of the Sports Committee for SUBOG, he is responsible for providing transportation for students to and from athletic events on and off campus and for the soccer boosters organization, “the goal patrol.” Andrew assisted with the planning of the memorial for Jasper Howard as well as the distribution of "Jazz Live 365” wrist bands at home football games. Taylor is also a member of the University’s Hillel organization and involved with Fraternity and Sorority Life.

**Vu Tran**

Mr. Tran is an accounting major. Vu is active in working towards issues of equality and boundary breaking stereotypes. He is a Rainbow Center employee, the President of Queers United Against Discrimination, an AIDS Event Coordinator, and a Health Education Office Analyst. Vu has also been involved as a First Year Experience Mentor, Peer Review Board Member, UConn Connects Facilitator, Peer Leadership Instructor, and a Violence Against Women Prevention (VAWPP) Workshop Facilitator. In addition, Vu is a member of the UConn Cheerleading team and was crowned 2008 Homecoming King.
Individual Community Service Award

This award honors a student(s) who has initiated and/or actively engaged in a community service project(s). The project may be a single event or a series of activities. The UConn Co-op is the proud sponsor of the Individual Community Service Award.

Finalists

Kerrie Canavan
A member of the honors program, Kerrie is studying Chemistry and was the program director for the Community Outreach Winter Relief Alternative Break trip in January 2010, which focused on providing flood relief in Atlanta, Georgia. Kerrie also served as Assistant Director of the Honors Council Alternative Spring Break trip to New Orleans in the Spring of 2008. Through the Department of Allied Health, Kerrie has served as the Environmental Health Intern charged with raising public health issues to the Greater UConn community. Kerrie also was a goal keeper and officer in the UConn Club Lacrosse team.

Colin Carlson
Colin, an honors student pursuing a dual degree in Ecology/Evolutionary Biology and Environmental Studies, is also the founder of the Cool Coventry Club, dedicated to reducing carbon emissions. Colin has participated in the Sierra Club Student Coalition summer and legislative training initiatives. As a member of the Wildlife Society, Colin represented UConn at the Eastern Conclave in Maine as a member of the quiz team. Additionally, he is a member of the Eco-House learning community, and has been chosen as one of four finalists for the Udall national scholarship for environmental service.

Valen Diaz
Valen is pursuing an individualized major on Socio-Medical and Health Disparities. She was elected to the position of Team Leader for the Spring 2008 Honors Alternative Spring Break Katrina Relief Trip. A member of the Honors Program, she chaired the Honors Council Community Service Committee. Valen is an alum of the 2009 Leadership Legacy Experience, and a finalist for the prestigious Truman Award Scholarship. After graduation from UConn, Valen is planning to attend graduate school to study public health and health care disparity. She is currently studying abroad in Cuba.

Joshua Faucher
Joshua Faucher, a Pathobiology and Sociology major, is also Program Director for the Collegiate Health Service Corp community outreach program, which is dedicated to developing a health education curriculum for students. Josh participated in an alternative spring break trip to New York City focusing on helping those suffering from HIV/AIDS and served as the Community Programming Coordinator for the Honors Civic Engagement Learning Community. In addition, Josh has also worked with the Easter Seals program and Campus Connections, and is involved with the No-Freeze Hospitality Center in Willimantic which provides shelter to homeless citizens in Willimantic.

Melissa Marsh
Melissa is an Accounting major and student leader for the Horace Porter Afterschool Program, which provides tutoring to middle school students. Melissa served as a Team Leader on the Community Outreach alternative spring break trip to New Orleans, and has volunteered in Costa Rica and Vietnam. She founded the University’s chapter of Wishmakers on Campus, promoting and raising funds for the benefit of the Make A Wish Foundation. Ms. Marsh also works as Team Leader for Community Service Days, leading two service days to the Hole in the Wall Gang Camp in Ashford, CT.
Building Community Award

This award honors students that have initiated and/or actively engaged in an activity that has significantly contributed to the sense of community on campus. This project may be a single event or series of activities. The UConn Co-op is a proud sponsor of the Building Community Award.

Finalists

Eric Cato

Majoring in Business, Eric has been involved with the African American Cultural Center, working as a Peer African Americans Sustaining Success (PAASS) mentor, assisting African American students in their transition to UConn. In addition, he founded Brother’s Reaching Our Society (BROS), addressing difficult issues of the Black community. BROS has collaborated and hosted programs to help educate the student body on a wide range of topics. Eric is also Special Events Chair for the West Indian Student Awareness Organization (WISAO), and has facilitated many fundraisers for Haiti.

Amy Holland

Amy, a double major in Psychology and HDFS, joined the Honors Council freshman year and is a member of its Public Relations committee. Amy also served as a peer facilitator for an Honors Freshman seminar, assisting students in their transition to college. Additionally, Amy volunteers with the Husky Ambassador Program, helping to recruit prospective students to UConn. Amy serves as a peer educator for HOLDUP!, a leadership outreach initiative to high school students. She is also involved with Active Minds, a mental health advocacy group, and as a volunteer with the Compliments & Cookies initiative.
Emerging Leaders Award

This award recognizes individual student(s) who, despite not holding a visible, established leadership position on campus, nonetheless has actively demonstrated attributes of a leader through his/her actions and character. The UConn Co-op is the proud sponsor of the Emerging Leaders Award.

Finalists

Christopher Michael Berthiaume
Christopher currently studies Sustainable Agriculture and is the Action Committee Coordinator at the EcoHouse Living and Learning Community, promoting sustainability efforts across campus. He is one of four candidates for the Udall scholarship, because of his demonstrated high involvement and leadership in environmental issues. He is also the Chief Operating Officer of EcoGarden, where he is involved in promoting their projects this summer. Chris serves as Secretary of the Green Building Club, and the Forestry and Wildlife Club.

Colin Carlson
Colin, an honors student pursuing a dual degree in Ecology/Evolutionary Biology and Environmental Studies, is also the founder of the Cool Coventry Club, dedicated to reducing carbon emissions. Colin has participated in the Sierra Club Student Coalition summer and legislative training initiatives. As a member of the Wildlife Society, Colin represented UConn at the Eastern Conclave in Maine as a member of the quiz team. Additionally, he is a member of the Eco-House learning community, and has been chosen as one of four finalists for the Udall national scholarship for environmental service.

Romana Haider
Romana Haider, an individualized major in Human Rights, is a member of the 2010 Leadership Legacy cohort. She is also a member of the Honors Council, for which she serves as the Community Service Chair, a team leader for their alternative break trip to Immokalee, Florida, and was a participant in their alternative break trip to New Orleans. Romana works as a member of the Global Leadership Commission, bringing speakers to campus to present on leadership topics, works with the Catholic Charities Immigration and Refugee Services, and serves as the Assistant Director for the Community Outreach Language and Literacy Cross-Cultural Connections.

Sarah Harris
Pursuing a degree in Secondary Social Studies and History Education, Sarah Harris also serves as a First Year Seminar instructor and a member of the Honors Board of Associate Directors. She also works with high school students teaching leadership through HOLDUP!. Ms. Harris serves as an ambassador for the Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Services and Husky Ambassador programs. Sarah, a Nutmeg and Presidential scholar, is also a member of Alpha Lambda Delta honor society and the Phi Alpha Theta history honor society, and was recently selected to be a member of the 2010 Leadership Legacy Experience.

Julia Leonard
Julia, a Babidge Scholar and Special Education major with a concentration in Science, serves as the project director for the Special Olympics Soccer Invitational. In addition to her work with the Special Olympics, Julia also is involved with the Jumpstart afterschool program, works with the Camp Horizons program, and is a facilitator for the UConn Connects program. Julia is the Special Needs Coordinator for the town of Groton, for which she has received the 2009 Recreating and Parks Youth Leadership Award.
Donald L. McCullough Leadership Award

This award recognizes individual students who have made significant contributions to the University community through leadership and service during their tenure as a student. This award is in memory of Donald L. McCullough, Director of Student Activities – 1979 and was established by his wife Verna and family.

Finalists

Miguel Angel Almodovar
Miguel, a senior pursuing a degree in History, has been an active member of Student Union Board of Governors SUBOG for years, serving as a committee member, committee leader, Vice President, and now, as President. As such, he has created a program called Synergy, which allows various campus organizations who have undergone budget-cuts to co-sponsor programs with SUBOG. He has been a Peer Leadership Instructor in the Leadership Office as well as a Community Outreach volunteer. Miguel has participated in two Alternate Break/Relief trips in both his junior and senior year to New Orleans.

Joseph C. Antelmi
Joseph, an honors student senior majoring in Economics, is co-coordinator for the Hunger and Homelessness campaign. In this role, he raised $25,000 for area homeless shelters, has planned ConnPIRG’s first state day conference, and is involved with the Connecticut Association for Human Services (CAHS), where he has as an intern. In addition to winning the Provost’s Award for Excellence in Public Engagement this past December, he was named a semi-finalist for the Emerson Hunger Fellowship, was nominated for the Truman, Rhodes, and Marshall and Mitchell Scholarships, and is a member of the University’s 2009 Leadership Legacy Cohort.

Bryan Alexander Banville
Bryan, a Physiology and Neurobiology major, has been involved with Community Outreach program as member of its executive board, a volunteer, and peer leader. He contributed to the Philadelphia alternative break his freshman year, and went on to become student coordinator of other trips, including one to Pine Ridge, South Dakota. Bryan has also contributed to the popular a capella group on campus, Extreme Measures, even taking on the role of President. Bryan has served as a Peer Leadership Instructor and was selected as a member of University’s 2008 Leadership Legacy Experience as a sophomore.

Alexandra Kuehnle
Alexandra is pursuing an Individualized Major in Security Studies to supplement her Political Science and Human Rights concentration. She is a New England Scholar, a Truman Scholarship Finalist, and President of the Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society. Additionally, Alex is a member of the 2010 Leadership Legacy Experience here at UConn and the founder and president of the UConn Silver Wings organization. Alex has been a Community Assistant, has worked for the Center for Students with Disabilities, served as Public Relations Coordinator and Communications Director in the Office of Community Outreach, and volunteers as an Assisting Minister and substitute teacher.

Leah Elaine McDermott
Leah, a Psychology major, is also a UConn Connects Facilitator. She served as a First Year Experience (FYE) course mentor, and continued her work by becoming a Teaching Assistant for the Educational Psychology course which supports and trains new FYE mentors. Leah became an Orientation Leader, working first on New Student Orientation, and then transitioning to the Parent Orientation Team. She is also a Resident Assistant and will be the Hall Director during summer orientation this year, where she will be a supervisor of the student staff and a resource for new students. Leah was also a member of the University’s 2009 Leadership Legacy cohort.
2010 Leadership Legacy Experience Students

The University of Connecticut is proud to recognize the 2010 Legacy Students as part of the Student Life Awards Program. They represent a rich diversity of leadership experiences, personal accomplishments, and academic excellence. The Leadership Legacy Experience was established to recognize and invite some of the University’s most exceptional student leaders to participate in a year-long leadership enhancement experience that builds on their legacy as University leaders, and helps prepare them for a life of commitment and contribution beyond graduation.

Timothy Callaghan
Biological Sciences and Political Science
Manchester, CT

Stephan Darden
Actuarial Science
Hamden, CT

Sarah DeAngelo
Human Development Family Studies
Atkinson, NH

Elizabeth Fedorko
Animal Science/Pre-Vet
Trumbull, CT

Alexandra Kuehnle
International Security/Political Science
Durham, CT

Romana Haider
Political Science/Expected Human Rights
South Windsor, CT

Sarah Harris
Pre-Education/History
Portland, CT

Kaitlin Heenehan
Ecology/Evolutionary Biology
Hamilton Square, NJ

Danielle Lanslots
Environmental Science
Stamford, CT

William David Lindsay, Jr.
Biomedical Engineering/Physics and Neurobiology
Brookline, NH

Arben Mustafa
Economics/Political Science
Bridgeport, CT

Sarah DeAngelo
Human Development Family Studies
Atkinson, NH

Alexandra Kuehnle
International Security/Political Science
Durham, CT

Danielle Lanslots
Environmental Science
Stamford, CT

William David Lindsay, Jr.
Biomedical Engineering/Physics and Neurobiology
Brookline, NH

Arben Mustafa
Economics/Political Science
Bridgeport, CT

Stephen Pelletier
Public Policy
Mansfield, CT

Rafael Perez-Segura
Economics/Political Science
Storrs, CT

Melanie Rodriguez
Elementary Education-English
Bridgeport, CT

Nina Sacco
Business Management and Entrepreneurship
North Haven, CT

Matthew Turner
Business Management
Colorado Springs, CO
The Division of Student Affairs offers a comprehensive, unique, and “cutting edge” approach to the leadership development of its students. The OAK Leadership Agenda reflects the Areas of Emphasis identified in the University's Academic Plan, seeks to integrate itself into the University's academic programs and services, and prepares students to be engaged, forward thinking, and global citizens.

The components of the OAK Leadership Agenda are grouped into three primary areas:

**EXPLORE**
...providing students with opportunities to explore campus-wide leadership and introduce them to the basic concepts and principles of leadership.

- DISCOVERY Leadership Series
- Leadership Seminars
- Leadership Learning Community

**ENGAGE**
...focusing on the development and application of student leadership skills within academic disciplines and co-curricular activities, Oak provides more advanced skill development and expanded exploration of leadership theories.

- FUTURE Leaders
- SOLID
- HOLDUP!
- Advance! Student Trustee Account Leadership Training

**ELEVATE**
...students are provided with opportunities to reflect on their experiences, refine their skills, and mentor younger students while preparing them for leadership beyond the university.

- Peer Leadership Instructors
- Leadership Legacy Experience