

Student Union News

UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT

A Publication for Student Union and Student Leader Alumni

SUMMER 2006

Have News?

Send us news on yourself so we can share it in our next newsletter. Email or mail your news to:

Jackie Calkins
Student Union
2110 Hillside Road
Storrs, CT 06269

jacqueline.calkins@uconn.edu

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New Era for UConn Student Union

By: M. Kevin Fahey, Senior Associate Director of Student Activities

Monday, June 5, 2006 marked the beginning of a new era, the 21st century era, for the University of Connecticut Student Union.

The Student Union and Student Activities staff, along with the Student Union management team and representatives from our Cultural Centers gathered to celebrate the beginning of the new era of the Student Union renovation project.

It started in May 2002 with the official ground breaking and start of the renovation phase. Phase one was completed in August of 2004 and phase two ended on June 5, 2006. Over the summer, the Food Court will

be outfitted. We will welcome Wendy's, Blimpies, and Panda Express. The Asian American Cultural Center, Puerto Rican Latin American



Photograph by Peter Morenus, University of Connecticut

The New Student Union

Cultural Center and Women's Center will move in along with new furniture for 12 new meeting rooms and a new ballroom.

The Student Union and Department of Student Activities will also welcome 5 new professional staff and a new Director of Fraternity and Sorority Life.

"It is very exciting", says M. Kevin Fahey, Interim Director of Student Activities and Student Union.

"We started all of this in 1998 with Artie Travis and Vicky Triponey and I cannot express to you the anticipation that exists across campus. SUBOG is ready, USG is ready and our staff is certainly ready. I have been a member of the Student Union staff since 1978 and I cannot remember anything more exciting than what we are now going through."

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UConn Welcomes New Directors

Thoughts on Becoming a Husky

by Monica Rudzick, Director of the Student Union

I am absolutely thrilled to be joining the staff in the Division of Student Affairs at the University of Connecticut. I look at the position of Director of the Student Union as a once in a lifetime professional opportunity and I can't wait to arrive in Storrs, meet new colleagues, and get reacquainted with those I met

during my time on campus. I was truly impressed by everyone's commitment to the work they do and the enthusiasm at the University as it continues to grow. I feel like I am arriving at such an exciting time in the University's history, with legislative and community support we could only dream of here in Texas. I anticipate an opportunity for my own personal growth and development unlike any other

experience and I am looking forward to all the challenges of my new adventure. And I am quite sure that every day will be an adventure!

When I had the opportunity to tour the new Student Union addition, I could see that a great deal of thought went into every decision and it was truly a labor of love. And even though Chuck Morrell made me wear those dorky safety glasses, it was clear that this new building is

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UConn Welcomes New Directors *continued*



Monica Rudzik, Director of the Student Union



Todd Sullivan, Director of Fraternity and Sorority Life



Christine Wilson, Director of Student Activities

going to be source of great pride for the campus and a focal point of community development for students, faculty, staff, alumni, and guests. I am extremely honored and humbled by the confidence you have placed in me to be a part of this experience.

I look forward to my arrival on campus soon and extend my appreciation to everyone for their kind words of welcome and offers of assistance during this transition.

Thoughts on Joining the UConn Community

by Todd Sullivan, Director of Fraternity and Sorority Life

I'm excited to be a Husky and join the Student Affairs team at UConn! The direction and vision for Student Affairs is truly inspiring, and I look forward to fully integrating the fraternity and sorority system into the larger UConn community. There is a great deal of potential for all of the varied constituents to work together to realize a Greek

community of which everyone - students, alumni, parents, faculty, staff, community members can be proud. I'm gratified to know that a team approach is sought to "enhance student success."

The fraternities and sororities at UConn are at a crossroads, and I will work with the staff and students to lead us down the right path. My focus will be on balancing advocacy and accountability. Initially, I will ask lots of questions and seek input from many sources.

Everyone connected with UConn has an opinion on the ideal future for Greek life. The Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life staff and I will work to distill those thoughts into a progressive vision and an actionable plan that supports the academic mission of the University and the values of each fraternity and sorority. Working together, we will be able to create a premier Greek community that other institutions will recognize and strive toward.

Thoughts on Joining the UConn Community

by Christine Wilson, Director of Student Activities

I did a little dance with myself (ok a big dance) when I was offered the job at UConn a few weeks ago. Wow! Many things have happened recently at UConn to improve the campus, and I am impressed with the vision and drive of the Student Affairs staff. So I am honored to be joining the staff...to become part of the group that makes the vision a reality! I plan to spend my first weeks at UConn getting to know the Student Activities department: people, goals, student organizations, policies, etc. Then I will venture out around campus and get to know the community to find out how I can assist in making campus goals come to fruition. So stop me to chat when you see me around campus. The more I know about UConn and its people, the sooner I can be a contributing member of the team!

Student Union Directors

Max Andrews , Director, Student Union	1951-1957
Thomas E. Ahern , Director, Student Union	1957-1982
Don McCullough , Director, Student Activities	1963-1979
Barry Wilson , Director, Student Activities	1980-1982
Barry Wilson , Director for Student Activities and Union Programs	1982-1993
Artie Travis , Director for Campus Activities	1994-1999
Eddie Daniels , Director of Campus Activities and Student Union	2000-2005
M. Kevin Fahey , Interim Director, Student Activities and Student Union	2005-2006
Monica Rudzik , Director, Student Union	2006-
Christine Wilson , Director, Student Activities	2006-

New Era for UConn

Student Union *continued*

The Student Union will begin its new era on Friday, August 25th as we open for a new academic year. The celebration will continue all semester with the highlight being the Student Union Rededication on Saturday, October 21, 2006.

"We will celebrate our

history, recognize our Alumni and Student Union supporters and look to a future that will make all of our Alumni, former staff and the UConn community very proud", Fahey said.

October 21, 2006 will be a great day, we hope you will join us.

Alumni News

- **Anton Jungherr, '54** is participating with a development team in starting a California Charter Middle School opening in September 2006. Also starting a communications company offering high speed broadband connections for small and rural municipalities and remote business operations via satellite.
- **Michael Fougere, '05** is working at Meditech as a Programmer/Analyst in the Implementation Division deploying software to hospitals.
- **Fred Kuo, '95** has accepted a position as the Associate Director of Student Activities and Facilities at Fairfield University.
- **Katie Levesque, '06** has accepted a job as a Project Manager at ProHealth Physicians in Farmington, CT. She will be doing a research based project looking at ways that Connecticut could adopt all electronic health history records.
- **Laura (Furdon) Miller** and husband are living in Texas and expecting their first child at the end of August.

The Student Union Past & Present

1952

- Student Union Managers Office
- Student Union Ballroom
- Music Listening Room
- USG
- WHUS
- Soda Bar
- Student Union Lobby

2006

- Offices for Student Union, Student Activities, and Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life
- Six Cultural Centers
 - AACC
 - AsACC
 - International Center
 - Puerto Rican Latin American Cultural Center
 - Rainbow Center
 - Women's Center
- 500 seat Movie Theatre
- Student Union Ballroom
- Student Union Lobby
- WHUS and UCTV
 - USG, UConn PIRG, Grad Student Senate, Greek Councils and Club Sports
- The Union Street Market with University run Food Court plus Wendy's, Blimpies and Panda Express

Student Union Rededication & Alumni Reunion

Invitations will be sent out in late August to all Student Union/Student Leader Alumni, current and former staff, University dignitaries and friends of the UCONN Student Union.

Alumni and friends will be invited to the formal dedication and an Alumni Reunion. What follows is the schedule for the day. Alumni will receive formal invitations in late August but are encouraged to plan ahead. For local hotel information, please see: <http://uconn.edu/accomodations/>

Student Union Rededication October 21, 2006

125th Anniversary Luncheon

Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts

Anniversary luncheon preceding the performance of "Six Huskies in Search of an Author" For more information please call (860) 486-1038

Inaugural Performance of

"Six Huskies in Search of an Author"

Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts

Created solely for the University's 125th Anniversary, this multimedia cabaret-style performance celebrates the unveiling of the UCONN history book "Red bricks in the land of steady Habits". The performance will be followed by a book signing by author Bruce Stave and a reception. For more information, please call (860) 486-1038.

Greek Alumni Picnic

Husky Village 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Attention fraternity and sorority members, both old and new! Join us for a picnic luncheon in our new home, Husky Village, and reconnect with your Greek brothers and sisters. For more information, please call (860)486-3423

Rededication Ceremony of the Student Union

Fairfield Way

Join President Philip Austin and members of the University community for the official ribbon cutting of the newly renovated Student Union. Reception to follow in the Student Union Food Court.

Student Union/Student Leader Reunion

Reconnect with former student leaders and members of the Student Union Board of Governors at the reception and dinner following the rededication ceremony. Advanced registration required. For more information, please call (860)486-3423.

SUBOG's Annual Homecoming Lip Sync Competition Gampel Pavilion

Still the campus wide program of the year, watch our student organizations and Cultural Centers compete for this year Lip Sync Awards. 8:00pm FREE

FRS 312453

University of Connecticut
Student Union
2110 Hillside Road, U-3008
Storrs, CT 06269

Phone: 860-4863423
Fax: 860-486-1689
E-Mail: Kevin.Fahey@uconn.edu

SUBOG Continues to Evolve: Thoughts from the SUBOG President

By Megan Vesce

Just over three years ago I found myself wandering campus during UConn's open house. I had been accepted as a transfer student from a small college that was in every way opposite of this University. UConn seemed massive.

I had done campus programming at my previous school and having experienced that "other" side of programming, the side without a budget or an office or multiple advisors, I have come to realize just how vast your contributions have been to the UConn campus. SUBOG hasn't always been the campus pulse that it is today. It was a building process, each board adding a little more to the legacy and ideals of SUBOG. It was your hard work and vision that opened the doors to our current opportunities. People expect SUBOG to provide what it always has – excitement, entertainment, and an enhancement of campus life. The challenges of high

standards and continuous improvement are ones we are proud to undertake.

This year the SUBOG board is made up of 17 dynamic student leaders filling five executive positions, chairing nine programming committees, and overseeing three outreach teams. SUBOG is filling the Union and campus with



Students gather for "Happy SUBOG Day"

traditional concerts, comedians and lectures as well as fresh ideas such as: a weekly film series, new daytime events, and "Husky Howl", a late night program every Friday and Saturday.

Even with summer in full swing, the board is buzzing with ideas and concepts to bring the campus to life. With the final phase of the Student Union complete, our programming will expand even more through new spaces and technologies. SUBOG is starting the year with the overall goal of not just great performances and activities, but the creation of countless intangible moments – the connections, conversations, community and experiences that make college memorable.

I can't say enough to express my appreciation for SUBOG and where the past boards have taken it. It has become a fantastic part of not only the University, but of my personal growth and UConn journey. I am confident this year's board will continue to uphold the commitment to great campus programming. Feel free to email the board with your experiences at subog@uconn.edu or stop by our website to see what we've been up to!