



VOICES

TOGETHERNESS, CHANGES, HAPPINESS, FEMINIST

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Welcome to the 2014-15 academic year. We have a great deal to catch you up on since our last edition. While most folks think the end of the school year begins a quieter time on campus, here at the Center we have three of our signature programs in May and June. First, we celebrate the beginning of Commencement Weekend by recognizing the top graduating female students from each of the University's schools and colleges, as well as the recipients of our 100 Years of Women Scholarship, at our [Outstanding Senior Women Academic Achievement Awards Ceremony](#). Each year we are humbled by the impressive accomplishments of the recipients and honored by the on-going support of each of the Deans to participate in this process. Second, about a week later, we host the annual Women's Advance Conference. [This year's conference](#), *Envisioning the Future - #UConnWomen*, included keynote speaker Kitty Tyrol and workshops such as: *Responding to the Challenges of Today's College Student*; *Not My Problem: Allies & the Bystander Effect*; *Personalized Medicine – This Term Is Everywhere In The Medical Field, But What Does It Mean?*; and *Effective Meeting Management*. The day would not have been possible without the many UConn staff and faculty who volunteered to present workshops, and most especially to the planning committee.

And as we were wrapping up the year of programming for students, staff, and faculty, we were also turning our attention to the incoming students during Summer Orientation, the third of our signature programs. Since 1991, the Violence Against Women Prevention Program (VAWPP) has been presenting information about sexual assault as part of the two day Orientation session. The program has evolved over the years to reflect best practice in the field of preventing gender-based violence, as well as the shifting landscape around policy and statutory requirements. Our VAWPP Summer Orientation facilitators include undergraduate and graduate students and Summer Resident Assistants. This past summer, 28 VAWPP peer educators presented to 3,254 incoming students during Orientation sessions.

But turning to the new academic year, we have much more ahead of us. As you will see in this edition of *Voices*, we are welcoming a large contingent of new staff, including our first ever Graduate Assistant, Huong Nguyen. We also are looking to re-engage with past Women's Center alums, in an effort spearheaded by Lynn Calling, Class of 1998. And to keep the "generational" theme going, in this issue we pay tribute to Dr. Carol Virostek, whose legacy of work on behalf of gender equity runs wide and deep, as well as celebrate the innovations of up-and-coming activists, such as Maha Saleem, this year's recipient of the Ella T. Grasso Leadership in Action Grant sponsored by the Connecticut Women's Hall of Fame. Finally, the conversation at the state and national levels around preventing sexual assault, relationship violence, and stalking continues to expand. Here at UConn (see [UConn's It's On Us video](#)), as President Herbst noted in her letter to the community on [Eliminating Sexual Assault and Harassment](#), our on-going efforts "builds upon the longstanding efforts of our [Women's Center's Violence Against Women Prevention Program \(VAWPP\)](#)." We are proud of the role the Women's Center has played over many decades to move forward the work of addressing gender-based violence on campus, and we look forward to our continued collaborations in the future.

—Kathleen Holgerson

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RED FLAG CAMPAIGN

UConn's Women's Center's Violence Against Women Prevention Program (VAWPP) hosted their annual Red Flag Campaign – a public awareness campaign designed to address intimate partner and dating violence as well as promote the prevention of dating violence on college campuses.

Research has shown that 1 in every 5 college dating relationships displays some form of abuse. Created using a “bystander intervention” strategy, the campaign encourages friends and other campus community members to “say something” when they see someone engaging in “red flag” behavior in a relationship, such as emotional/physical/verbal abuse, harassment, isolation, stalking, coercion, sexual/physical assault, and/or victim blaming. The campaign featured posters of couples of various races/ethnicities and sexual orientations to highlight the diversity in which domestic violence occurs.

You were likely to see the campaign's flags and posters around campus from Monday, September 22nd to Friday the 26th. Members of the VAWPP program tabled in front of the library on Fairfield Way and assisted students and staff who wished to help raise awareness about domestic violence issues make their own red flags.

For more information about the [Red Flag Campaign](#) or the [Violence Against Women Prevention Program](#), please contact Stephanie Lumbra, Violence Against Women Prevention Program (VAWPP) teaching assistant, at stephanie.lumbra@uconn.edu or visit UConn's Women Center on the 4th floor of the Student Union in Room 421.

- *Stephanie Lumbra*



WOMEN'S CENTER'S ANNUAL RETREAT

The Women's Center held our annual student staff retreat on September 7th. Both old and new Women's Center staff and VAWPP staff participated in a day full of informative workshops, teambuilding activities, and personal reflections.

In order to create a safe, inclusive space, the retreat included an exercise focused on effective communication techniques. For every individual to feel comfortable to voice their opinions, every other person should remain sensitive, calm, and understanding. The Women's Center strives to maintain an atmosphere where everyone is able to share experiences and voice opinions safely and confidently.



We learned about the Herstory of the Women's Center and why having one is crucial to the culture of the University. We shared stories and pondered what a future with gender equity would actually look like. We discussed intersectionality of oppression and how often we think about factors in our own lives that sometimes hold us back. Through this discussion, it became clear that the Women's Center and VAWPP staff are committed to becoming (or continuing to be) vessels of social justice awareness and change throughout campus and beyond.

- *Samantha Barrett*

Ella T. Grasso Leadership in Action Grant Program

Our very own Women's Center student staff, Maha Saleem has been awarded a grant from The Connecticut Women's Hall of Fame to develop a project with their 2014 theme: "Shaping Our World: Women in Design & Innovation". The grant was created in Governor Ella Tambussi Grasso's name to honor her commitment to public service and civil engagement. Let's see what Maha has to say about her accomplishment.

Not many people, especially the Women's Center folks know this about me, but the true inspiration for my desire to promote women's rights and issues, especially in the context of women in education and stem, originates from my own mother. She has been an extremely important feminine figure and role model in my life. In my family, education is a privilege for women; either you succeed and prove to be the invincible warrior with perfect standard or you simply devote your life to marriage, and only marriage. My mother imposed an attitude on me that struck me as very powerful and promising. She gave me the freedom of choice, to grow, make mistakes, fall, rise again, and determine my own fate -

something that was very rare in a typical Pakistani, conservative family like mine. But as a girl, I didn't know what I had to begin with.

For most young girls, we are raised in an environment where growing up as a girl means wearing makeup and playing with dolls. Science, computers, technology, engineering and math (STEM) are things that we fear because they are male dominated fields with the implication that women are not "fit" for them. To say that women are underrepresented in STEM fields to this day is to say that gender inequity still exists, and it in fact still does. The truth is, actually most young girls want to pursue these fields; they are interested in the process of learning, asking questions, rigorous thinking, and problem solving for the bigger reason of helping humanity and changing the world. What is stopping them is the common known fact that there are cultural, social, and individual factors that prevent them from entering STEM fields, which halts them from even taking that first step toward these careers.

I will bring two essential aspects to my women in STEM project – STEMtistic Women. 1) I will encourage diverse, underrepresented women in areas of STEM, and 2) I will focus on giving men the tools and information to support women in STEM.

- Maha Saleem



MEET OUR NEW STAFF!

We are delighted to welcome a host of new staff here at the Women's Center!

Huong Nguyen

"I hail from Reading, Pennsylvania. I completed my undergraduate career at Washington and Jefferson College with a major in Psychology and a minor in Business Management. Currently, I am pursuing my Master's degree in Higher Education and Student Affairs in the Educational Leadership program at the University of Connecticut. "



What is your position here at the Women's Center?

"I am the Graduate Assistant at the Women's Center."

Why did you apply to work at the Women's Center?

"I had the opportunity to interview with the Women's Center during the Higher Education and Student Affairs' Interview Weekend. To begin with, I was ecstatic that UConn has a Women's Center. I was even more ecstatic to learn about the inclusive mission, the intentional programming, and the network of people and resources surrounding the Center. With my work as an undergrad and my involvement with the American Association of University Women, I felt a strong fit. My values and passion for educational equity aligned with the center's mission, so now I am here!"

What are you looking forward to most in your experience here?

"I look forward to getting to know the Women's Center staff and constituents! I am excited to learn about and be part of the initiatives that come out of the Center!"

Mikhail A. Gilbert

What is your position here at the Women's Center?

"I'm the Graphics Specialist at the Women's Center. Along with helping out any way I can here at the Women's Center, I'll be tasked, particularly, with the creation of print graphics and other artistic digital media for the Women's Center events and activities."



Why did you apply to work at the Women's Center?

"I applied because I was looking for work around campus where I can better my design skills. I jumped at the opportunity because the idea of using my art to advocate for something that has the potential to affect the greater UConn community really got me excited."

What are you looking forward to most in your experience here?

"I'm looking forward to surrounding myself with the brilliant people that I work with and bettering myself and my artwork through the exposure and participation in this culture. I believe that with a greater purpose and a lot to be said about gender equity, everyone at the Women's Center will be more than willing to collaborate with me in putting those words into images to give the greater UConn community an eye-full to think about."



Ruth Lee

"I am a third year student majoring in Speech, Language, & Hearing Sciences."

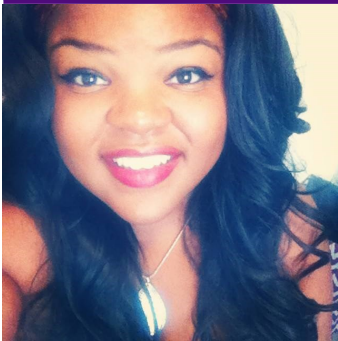
What is your position here at the Women's Center?

"As a volunteer, I hope to support the center so that more students are educated and empowered like I was in the Violence Against Women Prevention Program."

What are you looking forward to most in your experience here?

"I look forward to bridging my values, interests, and skills to serve the needs of the Center, the University, and to advocate for a world where gender equity is undoubtedly present."

MEET OUR NEW STAFF!



Martina Powell

"I am a senior majoring in Women's, Gender, & Sexuality Studies and Africana Studies. I am a radical hip hop feminist who loves tea, poetry, Beyoncé, and the idea of a revolution."

What is your position here at the Women's Center?

"I am the Between Women Discussion Group Facilitator."

Why did you apply to work at the Women's Center?

"I applied to work at the Women's Center because I think the work done here is extremely important for our campus and the community at-large. For my particular position, I think providing women with a safe space to discuss, support, and create community among one another is empowering and I enjoy being part of that process."

What are you looking forward to most in your experience here?

"I am looking forward to working with other individuals who have similar opinions and goals of dismantling systems of oppression!"

Lyn Alexander

"I'm a senior Women's, Gender, & Sexuality Studies/English major from South Windsor CT. I enjoy writing and reading, especially feminist blogs and sci-fi/fantasy novels. I dream one day to be a social worker working with marginalized populations!"

What is your position here at the Women's Center?

"I am a student worker focusing on helping maintain the website."

Why did you apply to work at the Women's Center?

"I applied to work with the Women's Center because I wanted to work within an explicitly feminist environment and be involved in campus activism. Also, so that I would be able to expand my area of experience as I am applying to MSW programs in the future."

What are you looking forward to most in your experience here?

"I'm looking forward to doing programming and growing and learning within the community of practice environment here at the Women's Center."

Rose Richi

"I'm a senior from Somers, CT, in the Human Development and Family Studies program with a minor in Women's, Gender, & Sexuality Studies and Anthropology."

What is your position here at the Women's Center?

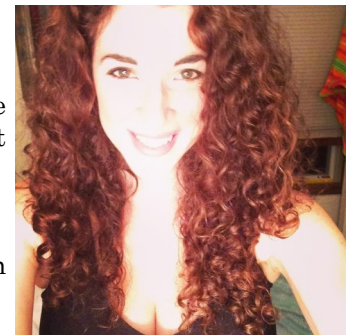
"I am a Teaching Assistant for the Violence Against Women Prevention Program class."

Why did you apply to work at the Women's Center?

"I applied for this position because I was once a VAWPPER my sophomore year. The class did a lot for me, and I wanted to be able to give back and inspire others to get involved in the work I am so passionate about."

What are you looking forward to most in your experience here?

"I am most looking forward to learning new perspectives and challenging my own visions of the world, and enhancing them further with each new face I meet."



MEET OUR NEW STAFF!

Hannah Kalichman

"I am a senior studying Latino/a Latin American Studies. I am hoping to go into the field of Social Work, particularly with migrant women and children. I enjoy horseback riding and obstacle course racing. So far this fall, I have done three obstacle course racing events and will be completing a Tough Mudder as well as two additional races by Thanksgiving!"

What is your position here at the Women's Center?

"I am a VAWPP TA here at the Women's Center, and I was a VAWPP student last year and a VAWPP Orientation facilitator over the summer."

Why did you apply to work at the Women's Center?

"I really enjoyed the VAWPP class and learned so much from my TA's I wanted the opportunity to continue to learn and grow, as well as help others learn as much as I did when I was in the VAWPP class!"

What are you looking forward to most in your experience here?

"I really am excited for the community of practice that the Women's Center offers. The Women's Center is a place for safe growth with supportive people that I trust and enjoy. I am really excited for all our meetings and events as well as going to Women's Center sponsored events throughout the year!"



Stephanie Lumbrá

"I am a 9th semester Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies major and Gerontology minor from Waterbury, CT. I am an active member of Lambda Lambda Lambda, a co-ed non-Greek social fraternity, and can usually be found playing with my kitties or sleeping in my free time."

What is your position here at the Women's Center?

"I work as a Teaching Assistant for the Violence Against Women Prevention Program."

Why did you apply to work at the Women's Center?

"Having taken the VAWPP class last year, I am very passionate about the class and these issues. The class has helped me to grown not only as a person, but as an activist against gendered violence, and I wanted to have the opportunity to help create amazing experiences for other students."

What are you looking forward to most in your experience here?

"I am most looking forward to creating bonds with other members of the Women's Center and strengthening the community of practice that we have here, as well as working towards my own personal growth as a facilitator and feminist."



TOGETHERNESS, CHANGES, HAPPINESS, FEMINIST

MEET OUR NEW STAFF!



Sarah Walsh

"I am a Senior Political Science and Human Rights double major. I am from Northwestern Connecticut. I participate in UConn Empower and am heavily involved with the Women's Rugby Team, as well as the UConn Outing Club."

What is your position here at the Women's Center?

"I am a volunteer at the Center. My duties include working reception and updating the Women's Center website."

Why did you apply to work at the Women's Center?

"I would like to take an active part in influencing the change I wish to see in the world. I want to learn as much as I can about gender issues as well as the tools to effect change. I also want to be able to gain activism skills."

What are you looking forward to most in your experience here?

"I'm most excited about making memories. We are coming of age in a time when women's issues are once again a hot topic in main stream politics."

FAT TALK FREE WEEK

The Women's Center co-sponsored with S.H.A.P.E. our annual Fat Talk Free body activism week! On the week of October 13th, the "fat talk free" initiative began on campus. Although the initiative only lasted a week, we encourage positive conversations regarding body image all year long. The way that we talk about our own bodies, as well as others', is extremely important. Letting go of negative body talk and critiques and flipping the conversation to positivity and self love is crucial. In addition to Fat Talk Free week, the Women's Center recognized and took part in [National Love Your Body Day](#), which was on October 14th.

SPOKEN WORD & EVERYDAY ACTIVISM

[Kelly Tsai](#) is an award winning spoken word poet, playwright, and filmmaker. She was profiled on Idealist in NYC's "Top 40 NYC'ers who make positive social change", AngryAsianMan.com's "30 Most Influential Asian Americans Under 30", and HBO's "East of Main Street: Asians Abroad". She will also be the keynote speaker at this year's 10th anniversary Asian American Women in Leadership Conference in Boston this November.

The Women's Center is proud to announce that Kelly Tsai will be the keynote performance for Domestic Violence Awareness Month and Asian American Heritage Month. Join Kelly in a creative workshop, *Splitting the World Open: Spoken Word & Everyday Activism* on **October 22, 2014 from 1:30pm to 3:00pm in Laurel Hall, Room 201**. Then, get the Tsai spoken word experience later that evening during *The Opposite of Violence* at **7:00pm in the Student Union Theatre**.

These programs are co-sponsored with the Asian American Cultural Center, the Asian American Studies Institute, and the Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program.

- Samantha Barrett



INTERACT PERFORMANCE TROUPE @UCONN

interACT is a nationally renowned social justice performance troupe based out of California State University, Long Beach. Since its birth in 2000, the troupe has reached thousands of audience members through its “proactive” (highest level of audience involvement) shows. UConn welcomed the troupe onto campus as one of their “Weeks of Welcome” events for first year students to continue the conversation about rape, domestic abuse, and bystander intervention they started during Orientation. Below are accounts of first year students who were present for the performance.

Voices: *What was your overall reaction to the interACT performance?*

Emily Quigley: “I really enjoyed the interACT performance! It kept the audience involved and focused on what the actors were doing and saying. They really let the audience participate and share their input. They created an interesting way to teach everyone about sexual assault while still putting on an entertaining show.”

Nicole Ryan: “The interact performance was really entertaining and funny, yet serious and informational at the same time.”

Voices: *Did you feel like interACT was effective in getting their message across?*

Nicole: “I think that they were very effective due to the fact that they used situations that were relatable for everyone in the audience. Also, having us answer a lot of questions and give our own opinions opened room for conversation.”

Emily: “I feel that they were effective because they showed everyone the good and bad ways to react to a situation when they brought audience members on stage. It wasn’t just a show where you’re told what to do when something happens. They let students attempt to resolve scenarios of conflict using their own techniques, and then corrected and improved those techniques.”

Voices: *Did your views on rape and/or domestic abuse change after seeing the performance?*

Nicole: “The way that I would go about the situation of a friend being raped changed from watching the performance. I learned a lot of good techniques to use. I also learned that rape and domestic abuse are very sensitive topics and am now aware of what to say/what NOT to say to someone who might be a victim.”

Emily: “My view on rape and domestic abuse did change after seeing interACT because I saw how victims actually react after one of them occur. One of the actors was in denial, blaming herself and making excuses for her boyfriend after he assaulted her. This showed me that it is common for people to avoid reporting these occurrences and that not all victims recognize abuse as abuse.”



IN REMEMBRANCE : CAROL VIROSTEK



We would like to take an opportunity to recognize the passing of Dr. Carol Virostek, a long-time supporter of not only the UConn Women's Center, but Women's Centers throughout the state and country. We had the honor to work with Carol through our affiliation with the [American Association of University Women](#) (AAUW) both at the state and national level. Carol often attended our annual [Elect Her](#) program and served as President of the American Association of University Women's New Britain Branch and the Connecticut Chapter. She also chaired the national AAUW College/University Relations Committee, and in that role worked to encourage collaboration and networking among the College/University representatives from the Connecticut institutions.

Not only did Carol dedicate her time and talents to the work of promoting gender equity, but she was able to garner financial resources to support the growth and development of the next generation of social justice activists and educators. In the December 2012 edition of *Voices*, we announced the Dr. Carol R. Virostek National Conference for College Women Student Leaders Scholarship, which funds a student from UConn and Central Connecticut State University (in alternate years) to attend [The National Conference for College Women Student Leaders](#) (NCCSWL). The first recipient was our former Newsletter Editor, Takina Pollock. Takina shared this about her experience with Carol: "Dr. Virostek was the first person I interviewed as newsletter editor in 2012, and later I had the pleasure of being the first to receive an AAUW scholarship in her name, which allowed me to attend

NCCSWL 2013. Earlier this year she invited me to a luncheon to discuss my experiences with other AAUW members and mentored me in my job search. Dr. Virostek will be greatly missed, but she certainly showed us all how to lead a fulfilling life."

In 2013, at the [national convention](#), AAUW surprised Carol with the announcement of the creation of an endowed fund to honor Carol's work and commitment, which will make grants in perpetuity to support leadership initiatives for young women. I was able to be there for the surprise and the celebration, and it was truly inspiring to hear from everyone the impact that Carol had on each of them.

Carol was committed to a life well lived and made it her mission to set high expectations for herself and others and to share with others the support, guidance, and knowledge to meet them. We will miss Carol a great deal, but her spirit and legacy live on in all those whose lives she touched.



- Kathleen Holgerson

WOMEN'S CENTER FALL 2014 CALENDAR

UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT WOMEN'S CENTER FALL 2014 CALENDAR



SEPTEMBER

8th-9th FEMALE ORGASM
Join sex educators Marshall Miller and Dorian Solot to laugh and learn about the "Big O", g-spot stimulation, sexual health and female empowerment in relationships.
Co-sponsored with SUBOG and the Department of Wellness and Prevention Services
Monday & Tuesday, 8pm @ Student Union Theatre

22nd-26th RED FLAG CAMPAIGN
The Red Flag Campaign is a public awareness campaign designed to address dating violence and promote the prevention of dating violence on college campuses. Throughout the week, flags will be arranged around campus to foster conversation about domestic and intimate partner violence.

24th UCONN POLICE DEPT. PANEL DISCUSSION
Q&A discussion panel with UConn Police Chief O'Connor and Capt. Hans Rhymerhardt.
Wednesday, 7:00pm @ AACC Community Room

29th ANNUAL AHIMSA LECTURE
Features Dr. Dorothy J. Edwards, the author of the Green Dot Strategy on violence prevention and bystander intervention.
Monday, 7-9pm @ Konover Auditorium, Dodd Center

OCTOBER

1st BLOOD RISING
Through the lens of artist Brian Maguire witness the documentary film about the fallout and follow-up to the femicide in Juarez, Mexico and whether the families can ever find peace.
Co-sponsored with the Human Rights Institute and El Instituto.
Wednesday, 3:30-6pm @ Konover Auditorium, Dodd Center

1st CRACKED NOT BROKEN
The UConn Suicide Prevention Committee is proud to present Kevin Himas, a leading advocate for suicide prevention and mental health awareness.
Wednesday, 7pm @ Student Union Theatre

13th-17th FAT TALK FREE WEEK
Get educated. Get involved. Make a difference!
Co-sponsored with the Department of Wellness and S.H.A.P.E
Tabling Tuesday and Thursday, 11am-2pm @ Union Street, Student Union

**22nd SPLITTING THE WORLD OPEN:
SPOKEN WORD & EVERYDAY ACTIVISM**
Writing workshop with spoken word poet Kelly Zen-Yie Tsai.
Co-sponsored by the Violence Against Women Prevention Program, Asian American Cultural Center and Asian American Studies Institute
Wednesday, 1:30-3pm @ Laurel Hall, Room 201

22nd THE OPPOSITE OF VIOLENCE
Performance by award winning spoken word poet Kelly Zen-Yie Tsai.
Co-sponsored by the Violence Against Women Prevention Program, Asian American Cultural Center and Asian American Studies Institute
Wednesday, 7pm @ Student Union Theatre

20th-24th THE CLOTHESLINE PROJECT
Survivors of sexual assault and intimate partner violence are encouraged to stop by the VAWFP Office (SU Room 419) anytime between **Wednesday, Oct. 15** and **Wednesday, Oct. 22** to create a t-shirt of their own in a safe and private environment. If you cannot make a t-shirt during the scheduled time, please contact: lauren.donalds@uconn.edu

27th IRON JAWED ANGELS
Join us at the Women's Center for the screening of *Iron Jawed Angels*, a film by Katja von Garnier
Monday, 6pm @ Women's Center Program Room (Student Union 421G)

NOVEMBER

3rd ANITA: SPEAKING TRUTH TO POWER - FILM SCREENING
Against a backdrop of sex, politics, and race, *ANITA* reveals the intimate story of a woman who spoke truth to power. Directed by Academy Award®-winning filmmaker Frida Mock, the film is both a celebration of Anita Hill's legacy and a rare glimpse into her private life with friends and family, many of whom were by her side that fateful day 22 years ago.
Monday, 6pm @ Women's Center Program Room (Student Union 421G)

6th FREE S.T.D. TESTING
Testing for HIV, Syphilis, Hepatitis C, Gonorrhea & Chlamydia for 25 students. A urine specimen will be collected. Do not urinate an hour before testing. Testing also includes free treatment for Syphilis, Gonorrhea and/or Chlamydia if needed.
Sponsored by Student Health Services (SHS)
Thursday, 5-6pm @ Women's Center Program Room (Student Union 421G)

12th ANITA HILL
Wednesday, 7pm @ Student Union Theatre

19th PRAY THE DEVIL BACK TO HELL DOCUMENTARY SCREENING
Pray the Devil Back to Hell chronicles the remarkable story of the courageous Liberian women who came together to end a bloody civil war and bring peace to their shattered country.
Wednesday, 7-9pm @ Konover Auditorium, Dodd Center

ONGOING GROUPS:

STRONGER

Stronger is a confidential support and discussion group for UConn students who are victim-survivors of sexual violence, relationship violence, and stalking. For more information and to register, please contact Maddie Barron (maddie.barron@uconn.edu) or Kit Maclean (katherine.maclean@uconn.edu). They can also be reached at CMHS at 860-486-4705.
Wednesdays, 5-6:30pm @ Women's Center Conference Room (Student Union 421H)

BETWEEN WOMEN

A discussion group for women who love women or think that they might. Come and discuss fun topics, movies and more with women who share your feelings and experiences.
Tuesdays, 6pm @ Women's Center Program Room (Student Union 421G)



University of Connecticut Women's Center
Student Union, 4th Floor, Room 421
2110 H.B. Hall Road, Unit 3118, Storrs, CT 06269-3118
Tel: 860-486-1104 Email: WomenCenter@uconn.edu

Location is wheelchair accessible.
Additional accommodations available upon request.
For more information contact the Women's Center at 860-486-4750

Original Artwork by Carrie Griffiths

CALLING ALL WOMEN'S CENTER ALUMS!

Greetings Women's Center Alumni and Alumnae! We need YOUR help! Did you know that you can earmark your dollars to support the UConn Women's Center? If you said, "no," then you are not alone. Not many people know this is an option. We need to change this in order for the Women's Center to continue providing cutting edge and up-to-date programs.

In an effort to reach out, reengage, and build ongoing financial support for the Women's Center, Lynn Santiago-Calling, Class of 1998, has taken on the volunteer role to reach out to former Women's Center students. The volunteer role is simple - call and email your friends! You can catch up, fill one another in on your life happenings, talk about how you are supporting the Women's Center and discuss ways in which everyone can help. Training will be provided, and the time commitment is manageable. For more information, please contact Lynn via phone or text at 617.875.3313 or via email at lynn_calling@hotmail.com (please use the subject line "Women's Center Volunteer"). We are looking for volunteers from ALL classes - so whether you just graduated or are celebrating 40 years since your UConn experience, WE NEED YOU!



*- Lynn Santiago-Calling
University of Connecticut
Class of 1998*

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Greetings! My name is Samantha Barrett, and I am the new Editor of *Voices*! I am a seventh semester Senior here at the University of Connecticut. I major in Human Development and Family Studies and minor in Criminal Justice. I am a proud sister of [Lambda Theta Alpha Latin Sorority, Incorporated](#), and I was born and raised in New Haven, CT.

Prior to my education acquired at UConn, I would have never labeled myself as a "Feminist". Of course I believed that all women and men deserved the rights to equal opportunity in all intuitions. However, due to the misinformation I was fed before coming to college, I viewed feminists as angry, hairy, white women with ugly attitudes that had a vengeance for every man that crossed their paths. Fast forward to my final year at UConn: I refer to myself as a Feminist and will inform anyone who will listen to me why that is. Becoming aware of what feminism actually is, uncovering the cycles of patriarchy, and studying the ways we are all experiencing gender based oppression has completely and permanently transformed my attitude regarding "the F-word."

Applying to become the Editor of *Voices* was fueled by my eagerness to further develop my feministic thinking through my experiences at The Women's Center. It was also inspired by my desire to speak to, and for, my peers regarding issues we face striving for gender equity. I'm especially interested in popular culture and the ways we may overlook how it influences and enforces toxic thinking among consumers. I am excited to be granted this outlet and look forward to the next issue of *Voices*.



WOMEN'S CENTER



SUPPORT THE WOMEN'S CENTER EDUCATION | ADVOCACY | SUPPORT | GENDER EQUITY

The University of Connecticut's Women's Center is committed to our work with students, staff, and faculty in an effort to promote gender equity on campus. Our efforts are spread widely throughout the University community and support all aspects of the University's mission of teaching, research, and service. We are a key contributor to the University's priorities of student success; distinctions in research; philanthropy; promoting excellence, and progressing in our values of civility and diversity. While we are proud of our successes, we need your help to support and enhance this work.

Dear Friends of the Women's Center:

As you consider your end of the year gifts, we would like to encourage you to contribute to the Center in recognition of the close of our 40th anniversary year to ensure that the major activities can continue to address areas of priority around gender equity.

Your gift can support:

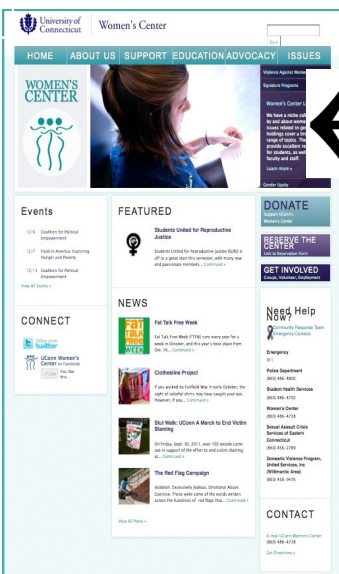
- *Student participation in a variety of out-of-class academic experiences, such as regional and national conferences*
- *100 Years of Women Scholarship*
- *Summer Orientation facilitators/peer educators from VAWPP to engage incoming students in discussions around consent, prevention, and bystander empowerment*

For more information on ways to support the Women's Center, please visit our giving page at <http://womenscenter.uconn.edu/support/give.php>

Or, visit the [UConn Foundation's giving site](#), select "other" under Purpose and include one of the following designations:

Women's Center: #20447
100 Years of Women Scholarship: #30231

sexualviolence.uconn.edu



Don't forget to check out our website!
<http://www.womenscenter.uconn.edu/>

We welcome you to visit UConn's Women's Center!
We are located at:
Student Union, Room 421
2110 Hillside Road, Unit 3118
Storrs, Connecticut 06269-3118
(860) 486-4738
www.womenscenter.uconn.edu
Hours: 8am-9pm, Monday through Thursday;
8am-5pm on Fridays

