



University of Connecticut Women's Center

April 2007

VOICES

2007 Women of Color Recognition Awards

By Bidya Ranjeet

The 7th Annual Women of Color Recognition Awards Ceremony was held on March 28th in the Student Union Ballroom. This year there were three recipients of this prestigious award for outstanding contributions to the University of Connecticut and for excellence in leadership, achievement and service.

Susana M. Ulloa has served as the Director for the UConn Upward Bound Program in the Center for Academic Programs since 1997. In this role she provides administrative and program management for two college preparation programs whose mission is to increase the college readiness of low-income, first generation students of color from Connecticut's urban centers. She also serves on multiple committees both within and outside the university community, which strive to improve the educational experience for



Fe Delos Santos, Deb Booker and Susana M. Ulloa

students, as well as to promote a diverse student body. For example, she currently serves on the University Senate Enrollment Committee, Senate Growth and Development Committee, the UCPEA Committee on Political Education (COPE), the UConn Early College Experience Program Board, ALFAS (Association of Latino Faculty and Staff) Board, and the Connecticut Association of Latinos in Higher Education (CALAHE). In these and other positions she has made, and continues to make, significant and outstanding contributions to the University

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Save the Date!

October 20, 2007

Join us as we celebrate the 35th anniversary
of the Women's Center!

Details coming soon!





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of Connecticut. Susana received her Masters of Arts in Political Science and she has been pursuing a doctorate at UConn in the Neag School of Education in the Educational Administration Program.

Fe Delos Santos currently serves as the Program Coordinator for the UConn Asian American Studies Institute. In this position she has striven to make significant contributions to the University as well as add to the University's growing interest in the study of human rights. Fe was the impetus behind the creation of the Japanese-American Internment Archives at UConn; she organizes both the annual Day of

Remembrance event and the Mahavira Conference on peace and non-violence, as well as being a driving force behind the multitude of events, speakers, etc. during Asian American Heritage Month. Perhaps what is most compelling about her work is her desire to promote cultural awareness, not by erecting barriers, but by finding commonalities such as her work setting up Afro-Orientalism in partnership with the African American Studies Institute and by highlighting the experiences of the ethnic Japanese from Latin American countries during internment in the US. In addition to these efforts, she works extensively with students on campus by serving as both mentor and educator, a position desperately needed for many of the students of color at UConn. Fe's commitment to the promotion of all of humanity makes her an invaluable addition to the university community.

Deb Booker has served as a UConn community police officer for the past 11 years. In a university environment it's not uncommon for the police staff to be treated with hostility, however, Officer Booker breaks the typical mold. She has established a friendly and engaging rapport with the student body and has put a caring face to her position of authority. Officer Booker truly embodies what it means to be a 'community' officer by being approachable, as well as being caring and supportive to those victims she works with during her service. Deb has served on the Recruitment and Retention Committee of the Women's Center Advisory Board. Also, in October 2001 and June 2002, she served as the representative from the UConn Police Department at the Training and Technical Assistance Institute, sponsored by the California Coalition Against Sexual Assault, under the auspices of the Department of Justice's *Grants to Reduce Crimes of Violence Against Women on Campus* program. ♀

Sexual Assault Awareness Month

By Betsy Cracco and VAWPP

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month and this semester, the Violence Against Women Prevention Peer Education Program has worked very hard to effectively challenge the members of the campus community with the question, "What will you do to end violence against women?" We hope you have or will see these efforts, and recognize that they are part of a larger process of working toward a dream - a hopeful vision of a world where together we work toward safety, non-violence, communication and peace to end gender-based violence.

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What Will You Do?

To end violence against women

1. Stop Using Sexist Language:

- a. Hold yourself accountable for not using harmful sexist language including:
 - language to refer to women (bitch, slut, etc)
 - euphemisms for sex (hit that, get a piece, etc)
 - homophobic or sexist remarks to insult masculinity (that's gay, fag, you're a girl, etc)
- b. Learn how language impacts violence against women

2. Speak up About Sexist Behaviors and Jokes:

- a. When you hear attitudes and behaviors that degrade women and promote rape, hear jokes about rape, or hear people blame rape survivors for being assaulted, speak out.
- b. If you hear anyone you know being disrespectful or abusive to women, do not remain silent about it.
- c. Do not use jokes or make statements that promote violence against women or blame survivors
- d. Learn about how jokes and behaviors promote violence against women

3. Create a Climate of Respect:

- a. Don't fund sexism: Refuse to purchase or display magazines, videos, websites, posters, or music that portrays women or girls in a sexually degrading, objectifying, or abusive way.
- b. Learn how media and images can effect violence against women
- c. Learn about pornography and how it effects violence against women

4. Promote Effective Sexual Communication:

- a. Learn about sexual consent
- b. Promote getting consent through posters, consent condoms, etc
- c. Speak to each other about healthy communication
- d. Speak up to prevent sexual assaults at parties and gatherings

5. Support Rape Survivors:

- a. Spread the word about how common and serious sexual assault is.
- b. Learn How To Support a Survivor: 4/24 at 4:00pm Student Union 320
- c. Learn about the problems and causes of victim blaming.

6. Learn about dating violence

- a. Learn warning signs of dating violence
- b. Learn about healthy relationships
- c. Watch out for the warning signs in each other's relationships
- d. Know how to get out of unhealthy relationships



Social Justice Feminism

By Lauren Donnelly

Since the Women’s Liberation movement of the 1960s and 70s, feminism has evolved and expanded to account for the many social forces that shape women’s lives. Building on an understanding of gender hierarchy, feminism today strives to include the effects of race, class, sexuality and other societal factors on power relations.

On Thursday, March 29th, Linda Burnham of the Women of Color Resource Center in Oakland, California came to the University of Connecticut to give a talk titled, “Paving the Way: the Rise of Social Justice Feminism” to speak on many of these issues of intersectionality. In her talk, she gave a brief history of the recent origins of Social Justice Feminism, looking back on her experiences with both the Women’s Liberation and Black Nationalist social movements. Because these radical political movements often overlooked women of color, the Third World Women’s Alliance was created, as several smaller groups joined together. The mission of these women was to, “Create a sisterhood of women devoted to solidarity among Third World people, based on a socialist ideology of struggling against oppression based upon race, economic status or class.” (www.coloredgirls.org). By publishing literature, protesting, boycotting and raising awareness, these women strove to bring an end to western imperialism in developing nations. They also worked on many domestic issues such as a comprehensive understanding of reproductive rights, disproportionately high rates of infant mortality in communities of color, worker and welfare rights, and anti-war efforts. Today, similar philosophies of this progressive group can be found in organizations such as the Women of Color Resource Center, a group of women who work on issues such as economic justice and human rights, peace and solidarity and research, social analysis and documentation. ♀



On the Lighter Side...

Brainchild of Women’s Center staff members Beth Barbeau and Alison Berk, SnowJourney Truth is a first semester Freshwoman majoring in Biomedical Engineering and Cryogenics with minors in Women's Studies and Puppetry. She is the Outdoor Events Coordinator and works at the Women's Center because collectively, we are excellent! She aspires to be the very first snowwoman president on the moon. Her political views lean a little to the left and a fun fact about her is she loves to go tanning! ♀





Registration
Deadline is
April 27!

Please register online at

www.womenscenter.uconn.edu/advance_reg

Sponsored by the University of Connecticut Women's Center and The Provost's Commission on the Status of Women

**There is no time left for anything but to make peace
work a dimension of our every waking activity. -Elise
Boulding**

**Peace is our gift
to each other.**
Elie Wiesel



The most potent weapon in the hands
of the oppressor is the mind of the
oppressed.
Steve Biko

If we have no peace, it
is because we have
forgotten that we
belong to each other.

Mother Teresa

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Voices
where all the pieces come together

Women's Center Pledge Form



The University of Connecticut
FOUNDATION
INCORPORATED

2390 Alumni Drive Unit 3206
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Name: _____
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PLEASE CHOOSE ONE OF THE FOLLOWING OPTIONS:

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I wish for my/our gift to remain anonymous.

PLEASE HELP US UPDATE OUR RECORDS:

Are you a UConn alumnus/a? YES NO

Is your spouse/partner a UConn alumnus/a? YES NO

Class year: _____

Class year: _____

School/College: _____

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Send me information about Planned Giving opportunities. I will consider including UConn in my will or trust.

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