

University of Connecticut
UConn *Parent Talk*
Office of Orientation Services
233 Glenbrook Road, Unit 4239
Storrs, CT 06260-4239

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To the Parents/Guardians of:

Compliments of the UConn Parents Association

www.parents.uconn.edu





Mike Glazier, Treasurer

University of Connecticut Parents Association

Mission Statement

The University of Connecticut Parents Association (UCPA) will support the University by involving parents in the college experience for the purpose of improving and advancing the University of Connecticut.

Executive Board

Cathy Rebai, President
Anne A. Darling, Vice President
Susan Camenker, Secretary
Mike Glazier, Treasurer

Meetings

The Executive Board meets every other month during the fall and spring semesters.

About UConn Parent Talk

UConn's *Parent Talk* is produced by the University of Connecticut Parents Association in conjunction with the Division of Enrollment Planning, Management and Institutional Research and the University of Connecticut Foundation. Parents/Guardians of undergraduate students receive UConn *Parent Talk* three times a year (August, January & May). We welcome your comments and suggestions. Please direct all correspondence to Maria A. Sedotti, Coordinator of Orientation Services/ Liaison UConn Parents Association to the following address: Office of Orientation Services, 233 Glenbrook Rd., Unit 4239, Storrs, CT 06269-4239 (860) 486-4866. email: maria.sedotti@uconn.edu

This issue of Parent Talk was edited and typeset by Erin McClellan, Graduate Assistant for Orientation Services, Higher Education and Student Affairs MA Class of 2009. A special thanks to Linda Taber, Elizabeth Hopkinson and Michael Hardej for

2. proofreading this issue.



Greetings from the Parents Association Treasurer

As great as it is that Winter has made way for Spring, the end of yet another academic year will soon draw to a close. It seems like only yesterday that we were moving half a household into a 5' x10' room! And now we have to move it out!

This year I was fortunate enough to have been a member of the UConn Parents Association Board, serving as Treasurer. Sounds important, doesn't it? Well fortunately the responsibilities are much less than the title would suggest. Being a member of this board has given me tremendous opportunities to see and understand the "inner workings" of this great institution. It has been both informative and impressive. I wholeheartedly encourage any parent to be a part of the Parents Association and serve on the Board if asked. I promise you that the benefits far outweigh the responsibilities.

While none of us needs a reminder, this has been, and continues to be, a tumultuous year, abounding in difficult circumstances and dire predictions for the future. It is, I am sure, as frightening for our kids as it is for all of us. Although we try to shelter them from some of life's more difficult issues, they certainly can sense that life is different than it was when they first arrived at UConn.

While my own student will not be among the graduates until next year, I am confident that like your student(s), the support of family and the educational training they received from UConn will continue to provide all that they need to be successful, both professionally and personally.

The students graduating this year are facing unprecedented circumstances as they enter into their career fields. It seems that no aspect of our economy is untouched by all that has happened. These are times of great concern, but also great opportunity and I have great faith in this next generation. I will now leave the rest of the speech to the more gifted and inspiring commencement speakers.

To all of the graduating students and parents: Congratulations on this and all of your future accomplishments!

Best wishes,

Mike Glazier

UConn Parents Association Treasurer

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Photos on the Cover: Photos on the cover of this issue of Parent Talk were taken at the University of Connecticut May commencement ceremonies. Congratulations to all of our 2009 graduates and their families.

This issue of Parent Talk was posted on the Parents Association website on April 17. Parents/Guardians subscribed to the listserv were notified of this posting. If you wish to subscribe to the Parents Association listserv, an "announce-only" listserv, sign up at parents.uconn.edu.

Gifts to the Parents' Fund Make a Difference...That's a Fact!

by Katherine Wasserman, Program Director – Parents' Fund

As parents you are aware that the cost of a University education is at an all-time high. Chances are you have become aware that sending your son or daughter to an institution of UConn's caliber is worth every penny. You may not be aware, however, that the level of educational excellence that your child receives here at UConn is a direct result of private support.

Myth: My tuition dollars and fees cover all costs.

Fact: Tuition and fees cover only about 30% of the cost of a UConn education. The remaining 70% comes from state support, endowment income and private support from parents, alumni and friends of the University.

Myth: My Parents' Fund gift won't make a difference.

Fact: Every gift matters. Over \$8 million in support is attained from donors who made gifts of less than \$250. That's impressive!

Myth: My child won't benefit from my Parents' Fund gift.

Fact: All students benefit from the quality and diversity of the student body and faculty. Gifts to the Parents' Fund help support UConn's First Year Experience, alcohol-free events, the Homer Babbidge Library, study abroad programming, scholarships, internship opportunities and so much more.

It's a fact...UConn needs your support. Many of the diverse educational and social programs at UConn are made possible in part because of the generosity of parents. Your gift now will help insure that your child will reach their potential at UConn, one of the top public universities in the nation. Thank you!

To make a gift to the Parents' Fund, or to learn more about the UConn Foundation, please visit www.foundation.uconn.edu, call 860.486.5000 or mail a check. All gifts for the benefit of UConn should be made payable to "The University of Connecticut Foundation, Inc." and be sent to 2390 Alumni Drive Unit 3206, Storrs, Connecticut 06269-3206.

Exciting Changes for Students Living On Campus

by Maureen Armstrong, Coordinator of Housing Assignments, Department of Residence Life

Residential Life is excited to announce a number of changes for the 2009-2010 academic year! Beginning in fall 2009, the two-bedroom apartments in Hilltop and Charter Oak Apartment complexes will be converted into four-person apartments. Each bedroom in the apartment will house two students, who will share one bathroom. The efficiency apartments in Hilltop Apartment Complex will be converted to double efficiencies, and will house two students. These apartment spaces were selected by returning residents during the on-line housing selection process completed in March/April 2009.

The change in the use of the two-bedroom and efficiency apartments in Hilltop and Charter Oak Apartments will result in two very important changes for students. First, more students will have the opportunity to live in an on-campus apartment that has many of the amenities that students seek. Second, the newly established configuration of the apartments will make them more affordable for students. The new rate for these units will be \$3,502 per semester or /\$7,004 per year, per resident.

With the installation of new custom bedroom furniture, we are confident that students will find these living arrangements to be comfortable and affordable. We are very happy to be able to accommodate more students living on the campus of the University of Connecticut.

Another exciting change is the expansion of the residential Learning Communities. Staff have been working closely with the Office of First Year Programs & Learning Communities to expand the options being offered to students. Learning Communities (LCs) help place students on a path to make the most out of their time at the University of Connecticut. Students can "live" their passion both inside the classroom and beyond, creating a rich and integrated university experience that inspires them to become engaged lifelong learners.

Students admitted into a LC live together in a residence hall and take a one- or two-credit seminar class as a cohort. Students have increased opportunities for one-on-one and small group interactions with faculty, staff and peer mentors which helps them adjust more readily to life at UConn, form lasting connections, and learn about resources and opportunities available to them. Participants benefit from engaging in events and activities across campus, such as study groups, lectures by well-known scholars or distinguished individuals in different fields, cultural & social events, field trips, internship opportunities, study abroad, and more. A list of the learning communities being offered in 2009-2010 is listed below.

Major-Based Communities

EUROTECH – NEW! (FR, SO, JR, SR)

Fine Arts (FR)

Honors

Women in Math, Science & Engineering (FR, SO)

Nursing (FR, SO, JR, SR)

(Pre-)Pharmacy (FR, SO, JR, SR)

Interdisciplinary Interest Communities

Community Service (FR, SO, JR)

Connecting with the Arts (FR)

EcoHouse – NEW! (FR, SO, JR, SR)

Social Justice in a Global Community (FR, SO, JR, SR)

Leadership, Learning & Life at UConn (FR)

Global House (FR, SO, JR, SR)

Public Health Public Service – NEW! (FR, SO, JR, SR)

This is an exciting time to be living on campus at UConn and we look forward to working with your family in the future.

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Help Your Child Reap the Benefits of Summer Courses

By Jeff Von Munkwitz-Smith, University Registrar

Our summer session program gives students the opportunity to earn college credits in a variety of accelerated courses without sacrificing their summer plans. Classes are offered May – August and can be completed in three or six week intervals. Course offerings include many of the general education, writing and math courses that are required for graduation. Some majors also offer upper-division courses. Weighing the costs, a few summer session courses are more affordable than paying for an extra year at UConn. Our summer courses offer the same University of Connecticut quality, but with real savings. Instead of paying the expenses associated with an additional semester or two of full tuition to meet graduation requirements, summer session classes are charged on a per-credit basis.

Many students enjoy the flexibility that summer session offers. Classes are offered at a variety of times during the day and allow students to still pursue summer internships and other plans. The abbreviated class terms also leave plenty of time for summer vacations and work.

Summer sessions can also be seen as an opportunity to get ahead. For many students, the change to get ahead is of great value and importance. Summer session is a convenient alternative to heavy course loads during the fall and spring semesters. This summer the School of Business is offering many of the courses that count towards the Business minor, expanding the opportunities for students to complete that popular minor.

In addition to being offered at our main campus in Storrs, summer session courses are scheduled at each of our five regional campuses. Students can take courses at a location that's convenient to them. Parents, there's added cost saving if your students takes summer courses at a regional campus and lives at home, rather than paying for summer housing at the Storrs campus.

I hope you will seize the opportunity to discuss the benefits of summer session with your student. Although it may seem too early to begin thinking about summer, it's closer than you think. Registration began in February and your student recently received more information about our summer session program in their HuskyMail email accounts. Together we can help your student achieve their academic goals.

Online Summer Course Options

Some students will not be able to take advantage of the courses that UConn offers at a variety of times at our main campus in Storrs or at regional campuses across the state. For those students, taking UConn courses online may be a good alternative. UConn's online courses offer the same high academic quality as our in-person offerings. They cover the same material and count towards the same academic requirements as their in-person counterparts.

More than 40 courses are currently offered online for Summer Session 2009 in a variety of academic disciplines. Many of these courses count towards the University's General Education requirements and the others count towards major requirements.

4. UConn Summer Session is a true academic and economic value. Summer Session courses are charged on a per credit basis and are

offered at a fixed rate, regardless of a student's residency status. For students not on track to graduate in four years, a few summer session courses are often more affordable than an additional semester or two of tuition.

Our accelerated summer classes are a convenient way for students to catch up or get ahead on degree requirements, while focusing on a smaller academic course load.

To learn more about Summer Session at UConn, visit us online at summersession.uconn.edu.

The FERPA Privacy Waiver

by Jean Main, Director, Student Financial Aid Services

We heard you! We realize that the University's application of FERPA, the federal law that protects a student's privacy in his or her education records, has posed some challenges in your desire to support your student by limiting our ability to communicate with you without your student's permission. You have expressed a desire for a more fluid, efficient process by which authorization to communicate with University officials regarding these records (Registrar, Financial Aid, Bursar). We are in the process of creating an application that enables your student to identify specific people (like yourself!), to whom offices at the University can speak about student records. This application, called the FERPA Privacy Waiver, is scheduled to be rolled out in the summer of 2009 on the Student Administration System.

Students will be required to take action on the waiver when it is activated in May. The information submitted by the waiver can last their entire college experience or the student can change or update it at any point.

Staff from the Registrar's Office, Bursar's Office, Office of Student Financial Aid Services, Department of Residential Life, the Husky One Card, and Community Standards look forward to working with you to support your student. You can help us by encouraging your son/daughter to complete the FERPA Privacy Waiver via the Student Administration System, once it becomes available. For more information on FERPA, please visit <http://www.registrar.uconn.edu/ferpa.html>

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**The UConn Parents Association
would like to wish all of our students and families
a very safe and restful summer.**



Best Wishes to the Graduating Class of 2009

Important Changes to Loan Processing for 2009-2010

by Jean Main, Director, Student Financial Aid Services

Beginning in the fall 2009 semester, the University of Connecticut will participate exclusively in the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program, in which borrowers obtain loan funds for Federal Stafford Loans and Federal Parent PLUS Loans directly from the U.S. Department of Education. We believe that the Direct Loan Program will offer our students and parents a more stable, streamlined, and predictable borrowing experience.

There are several benefits to the Federal Direct Loan Program, including:

- A guaranteed source of funding for federal student and parent loans.
- A lower interest rate for the Federal Parent PLUS Loan - 7.9 percent in the Federal Direct Loan Program compared to 8.5 percent in the Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) Program.
- Loans borrowed through the Federal Direct Loan Program will not be sold.

Because of this change, **ALL** new and continuing federal loan borrowers (students **AND** parents) for the 2009-2010 academic year must complete a new Master Promissory Note (MPN) for the Federal Direct Loan Program.

To avoid multiple hits on your credit, you should not complete the pre-approval process for a PLUS Loan with any other lender. If you wish to borrow a Federal PLUS Loan for 2009-2010, you should initiate the process by completing the Federal Direct PLUS Loan Information Form at http://financialaid.uconn.edu/formportal/pdf_forms/plusloan_09-10.pdf and indicating the amount you wish to borrow. This amount cannot exceed your student's Cost of Attendance less any other aid he or she is receiving.

After the completed Federal Direct PLUS Loan Information Form is received at our office, we will send your loan request to the U.S. Department of Education to perform a credit check. You will receive notice of your approval or denial from their office. If you are approved, our office will contact you via email with instructions regarding the completion of a new MPN for the Federal Direct Loan Program. The MPN must be completed before your funds will disburse or show as an anticipated deferral on your student's fee bill. If you are denied for the Federal Direct PLUS Loan, and your student has submitted a 2009-2010 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), he or she may be eligible for additional Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan funds.

We strongly encourage all students to complete a 2009-2010 FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). Most students who complete a FAFSA will qualify for a Federal Direct Stafford Loan at UConn. If your student plans to borrow a Federal Stafford Loan at UConn in 2009-2010, he or she must complete a Federal Direct Stafford Loan MPN.

We advise your student to complete the MPN as soon as possible at http://www.financialaid.uconn.edu/index.php/Direct_Loan_MPN_-_Student.

Visit our website at <http://financialaid.uconn.edu/directfaq> for more information about the change to the Federal Direct Loan Program.

Storrs Center: Realizing the Vision

by Kathleen M. Paterson, Mansfield Downtown Partnership, Inc.

Imagine a typical New England college town. For many people, a town green, book stores, and coffee shops come to mind. Others may think of a town with a strong sense of community, with places to gather and celebrate graduations, sports accomplishments, and life events. Still others may conjure images of poetry readings, art shows, and jazz recitals.

The University of Connecticut has experienced many positive changes in recent years. While a growing student population and updated campus have helped to raise the profile of UConn, community members yearn for the feel of a "college town."

When the Town of Mansfield first developed a plan for a new downtown, they joined with the University to form the Mansfield Downtown Partnership to work towards a town center that will meet the needs of Town residents, UConn students, faculty, staff, alumni, and visitors to the region. Since its inception in 2001, the Partnership has made significant progress in realizing the vision of a new downtown, Storrs Center.

Along with master developer LeylandAlliance, the Partnership is working to create in a matter of years what has taken other New England towns centuries to develop: a vibrant, welcoming town center. Storrs Center will feature a mix of restaurants, shops, and residential options. Located across the street from the School of Fine Arts, E. O. Smith High School, and the Town Hall, Storrs Center will serve as a true center for the entire community.

In the past year, the Partnership has received a \$10 million grant from the State of Connecticut for a parking garage and approvals for a stormwater management plan and for a wetlands license, all critical steps in the development of Storrs Center. A final permit, from the State Traffic Commission for improvements to Storrs Road/Route 195, remains before construction may begin.

The Partnership has approached the creation of Storrs Center in a thoughtful and deliberative manner to create a downtown that truly reflects the UConn and Mansfield community. In the coming months, the community will begin to see the fruits of this labor with the beginning of the first phase of construction.

For more information about the Partnership or the Storrs Center project, please visit www.mansfieldct.org. You may also contact the Partnership office at 860.429.2740 or by email: mdp@mansfieldct.org

Please remind your student to check their Husky e-mail over the summer. Several University departments correspond with students by e-mail only.



UConn Converting to Paperless e-Billing

By Glen O'Keefe, University Bursar & Associate Controller

The University of Connecticut is excited to announce that effective the fall 2009 semester we will be saying “good-bye” to paper bills and move into the era of electronic billing. This change pertains to undergraduate students only. Graduate students and selected other groups have already been under an e-bill format for many years.

E-billing offers several benefits. These include:

- A “green dividend” through a dramatic decrease in paper consumption for such things as fee bills, envelopes and inserts, thus helping to conserve our natural resources
- The option for students to designate an authorized user such as a parent or guardian to do business on their behalf
- 24 x 7 access to your bill from any location with a web browser
- Elimination of the current \$5.00 on-line e-check fee
- Helping to keep tuition and fee costs down by lowering the University’s costs of doing business

Prior to each semester, students and authorized users will be notified by e-mail when their e-bill is ready to be viewed. We currently anticipate that the fall 2009 fee bills will be ready for viewing on June 23, 2009. Students and authorized users may pay their e-bills online by e-check or by credit card (note: a 2.5% convenience fee applies for credit cards). Traditional paper checks will also continue to be accepted, however, checks will now be scanned and converted to electronic payments.

Additionally, e-bills will be fully integrated with the UConn Payment Plan for those who desire to pay in installments. In fact, the “look and feel” of the e-billing pages will seem very familiar to those families who have been using the UConn Payment Plan.

UConn’s e-billing will have many of the conveniences typical of on-line bill paying. For example, you’ll be able to set up optional secure “profile” that saves your checking account or credit card information, so you don’t have to re-enter it each semester. There’s even an option to be notified by text message.

More information about our conversion to e-billing will be forthcoming as we get closer to June including when students can go on-line to designate their authorized users. Please be sure to check www.bursar.uconn.edu frequently for regular updates. Also, be on the lookout for articles in various media.

The University hopes that you’re as excited about e-billing as we are. We believe it represents a significant service enhancement that will greatly assist students and families in managing their University business

S.T.E.P Offers Programming to Help Seniors Succeed

By, Dan Doerr, Program Director, Senior Transitions and Engagement Programs, &
Stephanie Muehlethaler, Graduate Assistant, Senior Transitions and Engagement Programs

Senior Transition and Engagement Programs (S.T.E.P) is designed to promote a successful transition for college students to the world beyond the University. A balance of academic and programmatic initiatives provides an opportunity for life skill development, reflection to determine the meaning and value of the undergraduate experience, and consideration of the student’s growing role as a productive and valued citizen and university alumnus.

S.T.E.P pursues its mission by enhancing awareness of and support for key personal adjustments, improving seniors’ career preparation and development, enhancing seniors’ preparation and prospects for graduate education, promoting effective life planning and decision making, encouraging a sense of unity and community among the senior class, and serving as a source for information about senior related services and issues.

This is accomplished through a combination of a one credit academic course offering, on-line resources, programmatic initiatives and close collaboration with multiple departments within the University of Connecticut.

One main component of S.T.E.P is the Senior Year Experience class. Each semester this course enrolls about 190 students in a 10 week, one credit course with a combined lecture and discussion format. Students attend lectures delivered by content experts on a number of topics and participate in small 15 person discussion sections. Typically lecture speakers address such topics as resume writing, job searching, interviewing, job offers, personal financial management, car buying, retirement investing, and transitional issues. Discussions provide an opportunity to process and engage with the materials presented in lecture, incorporate these topics into a reflection of the meaning of the students’ undergraduate education and future plans, and reflect upon and discuss various senior-related issues.

Additionally, S.T.E.P promotes collaboration and cooperation among offices on-campus to provide programming and information to seniors. Seniors receive monthly updates through the Senior E-news highlighting upcoming deadlines, events and information essential to their success. Many of the events highlighted through the newsletter are a result of the collaboration between S.T.E.P. and other campus offices including, Career Services, the Alumni Association, Student Activities, and the UConn Co-op. These events include the annual Countdown to Commencement, Graduate School 101, December Grad Reception, Grad Fair, and Senior Week. For more information, visit

Home For the Summer: A Parental Guide

By JoLynn Powers, Psy.D. and Barry A. Schreiber, Ph.D., *Counseling and Mental Health Services*

Congratulations! Your children have successfully met the challenges of a year at UConn. Now you can all look forward to being reunited for the summer. Right?

Overall, this is a wonderful time to reconnect, relax (relatively speaking), and enjoy being together again. Yet, this is also another major transition for everyone especially since your child has had the freedom to live on their own this past year. For parents of upperclass students, this is old hat. For parents of first year students, this is yet another challenge on their road to independence and adulthood. So we'd like to offer you some **Helpful Tips** to ease this transition and help insure that the summer is enjoyable for all.

Your child has been used to independently making daily decisions about time management, who they spend time with, what their activities are, and their bedtime routines. This is easier for you to cope with when your child lives apart from you. The temptation is there for you to fall back into old expectations of supervision and curfews when they are home. You have had some practice in making these adjustments during the school breaks, but now you are challenged to allow this independence for the next few months. Decide what battles are worth picking and discuss some basic ground rules early on. Listen with openness and flexibility. Keep sight of the goal of an enjoyable summer for all.

Remember, independence is something to be valued. This can be true whether you are from a culture that is individualistic or a culture that is more collective. Developmentally, your child is immersed in the process of developing his or her identity as a fully functioning adult. When your child is home it is important to foster the skills of autonomy, self supervision and personal responsibility they have had to develop to function effectively at school. While it might be challenging at times, it is important to keep the framework that your child is an *emerging adult*. Your child's responsible management of their income from their summer job is also a very important part of developing independence. As you keenly know, fiscal responsibility is key in managing today's challenging world. It is a good idea to speak with your child about contributing to their cell phone bill, car insurance, and leisure expenses with summer savings.

Listen to your child's opinions and ideas. Invite them to discuss their ideas how they feel about various issues and share your thoughts with them. It can be a particular treat to enjoy scholarly discussions about new ideas they have learned in their classes. Encourage your children to share some of their academic papers. They have worked hard and are often proud of their work and would appreciate this special interest. Try to keep an open mind to some new ideas that may challenge your perceptions about your child's opinions and beliefs. A respectful, thoughtful discussion will help to bring your relationship with your child into a new adult phase. In some ways, you get to actually work less hard than before. And that's good news! The work of becoming an adult is now shifted to your child. Your new role, as a mentor, consultant and friend, is indeed very rewarding. You get to see the fruition of all of your work over the years as your child evolves into his or her own person. So, your adult child is not the only one who gets to experiment with some new found freedom!

Have a wonderful summer.

Mandatory Insurance Coverage for Full Time Students

by Michael Kurland, Director, Student Health Services

University of Connecticut requires all full time students to maintain insurance coverage, which may be under a student's family or individual plan or through the **S**tudent **H**ealth **I**nsurance **P**lan (**SHIP**) sponsored by the University of Connecticut. A full time student is defined as an undergraduate student enrolled for 12 or more credits or a graduate student enrolled for 9 or more credits.

If a student has other insurance coverage (either through a parent or independently) he or she must formally notify Student Health Services to avoid being automatically enrolled in the **SHIP**. The student must complete an on-line waiver, which is accessed through his or her Student Administration (PeopleSoft) account. To access this account the student must have his or her ID (PeopleSoft) number together with the correct password. The web address to sign on to the account is www.studentadmin.uconn.edu.

The only acceptable form of notification, that the student has other insurance coverage, is the on-line waiver. Failure for a student to complete the on-line waiver, prior to the deadline date of 9-15-09, will result in automatic enrollment in the University sponsored **SHIP** and will require payment of \$1,381.00 for one year's enrollment in the **SHIP**. No premium refunds or waivers will be granted after the deadline.

Beginning in the 2009-10 academic year, significant changes will occur to the way we do business at Student Health Services. These changes will impact the fees we charge and the way they are collected. It is strongly suggested that you and your student review the changes prior to declining the SHIP coverage. The web address to access this information is www.shs.uconn.edu/insurance.html. Information will be available beginning June 1, 2009.



UConn Fall 2009 Calendar

Friday, August 28

Freshmen and Transfer Students Move into Residence Halls. New Student Convocation at 5:00 p.m. in Gampel.

Saturday, August 29 – Sunday, August 30

Continuing and Campus Change Students move into residence halls

Monday, August 31

Fall Classes Begin

Monday, September 7

Labor Day (No Classes)

Saturday, November 21 – Sunday, November 29

Thanksgiving Break

Friday, December 11

Last Day of Classes

Monday, December 14 – Saturday, December 19

Final Exams

Sunday, January 17

Residence Halls Re-Open

Tuesday, January 19

Spring Classes Begin



Some Final Thoughts From Our Graduate Assistant...

Over the past two years, I have had the pleasure of interacting with many of our UConn parents/guardians at Open House, Family Weekend, Orientation and other exciting events. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the parents who volunteered their time and efforts to help make the events sponsored by the Parents Association a success. As well, I extend my gratitude to the Parents Association Executive Board for their enthusiasm and contributions to the University.

I will miss serving as your *Parent Talk* editor and take with me many fond memories as I embark on my professional journey in the field of Higher Education.

Thanks to all who made this a memorable experience.

Erin A. McClellan

Graduate Assistant, Office of Orientation Services & UConn Parents Association

SAVE THE DATE for Family Weekend 2009!

Remember to mark your calendar now with dates for Family Weekend 2009. This UConn tradition will be held October 2, 3 and 4, 2009 with events for the entire family.

Some of the traditional Family Weekend events include, the Student Talent Show, the Horticulture Show, Cornucopia, the Cultural Explosion, Dinner with the President, Breakfast with the Provost, and the annual BBQ. There will also be special academic presentations for parents and guardians, athletic events, and much more!

We are pleased to announce that this year's Family Weekend featured speaker will be UConn's Professor of Physics, Dr. Ron Mallett. In addition to his breakthrough research on time travel which has been featured extensively in the media, famed Actor and Director, Spike Lee is co-writing and directing a feature adaptation of a memoir co-written by Ron Mallett. Dr. Mallett's session will be held in the Student Union Theatre on Saturday, October 3 at 3:00 p.m. There are no reservations required for this presentation, however, there are a limited number of seats available in the Student Union Theatre.

Watch your mail in late summer (August) for our Family Weekend postcard which will inform you about the weekend and where you can register for it, or visit the Family Weekend website at www.familyweekend.uconn.edu for a preview of this years activities (*The Family Weekend schedule will be posted during the summer.*)

Because Family Weekend is attended by thousands of UConn Families from near and far, we suggest you make your overnight reservations early. Area accommodations can be found on the Parents Association website at parents.uconn.edu.

We look forward to seeing you at Family Weekend 2009!

Self Service Storage

Is your student looking for a place to store some things this summer? Local area storage facilities are listed below.

Andover Hillside Self Storage Center	(860) 742-1644
Affordable Self Storage Center, Somers	(860) 749-6549
Bolton Self Storage, Bolton	(860) 228-8030
Bolton Notch Self Storage, Bolton	(860) 649-6622
Chaplin Commons Self Storage, Chaplin	(860) 456-0475
Columbia Rent-A-Space, Columbia	(860) 228-4734
Coventy Self Storage LLC, Coventry	(860) 742-5540
Daniel's Mini Self Storage, Vernon	(860) 871-9015
East Lyme Rent-A-Space, Niantic-Columbia	(860) 228-4734
Ellington Storage Center, Vernon/Rockville	(860) 875-9991
Easy Does It Self Storage, Franklin	(860) 887-2400
Home Town Self Storage LLC, Pomfret	(860) 963-1090
Mansfield Self & RV Storage, Mansfield	(860) 423-5677
Murphy's Storage Depot, N. Franklin	(860) 642-1900
North River Road Self Storage, Tolland	(860) 870-4504
North Windham Self Storage, N. Windham	(860) 423-0497
Stock N Lock Self Storage, S. Windham	(860) 456-8544
Stock N Lock Self Storage, Willington	(860) 429-9339
The Attic Self Storage Center, Ellington	(860) 872-7233
UHaul Self Storage, Columbia	(860) 228-1886
U-Store-It, Enfield	(860) 745-2700
Vernon Storage Center, Tolland	(860) 875-9991