HR News & Events

September 23, 2008

Upcoming Events

♦ The HR Film Series, honoring the 60th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, will be screening, *Children in No Man’s Land* on Wednesday, October 1, at 4:00 PM in Konover Auditorium of the Dodd Center. *Children in No Man’s Land* uncovers the plight of the 100,000 unaccompanied minors crossing the U.S./Mexico border every year. Focusing on the Arizona/Sonora Desert border area, the film investigates the stories behind both successful and unsuccessful border crossing attempts by Latin American children seeking refuge in the United States, illustrating Article 6 of the UDHR: Recognition under the Law. There will be a reception following the film, as well as a Q & A session with filmmaker Anayansi Prado.

♦ Namaste, the student run human rights journal at UConn, is currently looking for a co-editor. This is a great opportunity, especially for those interested in the position and are looking for a HR internship for the Spring semester. If you have any questions or would like to apply to be an editor of Namaste, please contact Rachel Jackson at rachel.jackson@uconn.edu.

♦ The HRI and UConn’s Humanities Institute are hosting a conference, *In the Balance: Humanitarianism & Responsibility*. The conference will be held from October 10-11, 2008 and is open to all UConn faculty, staff, and students. Breakfast and lunch will be provided for those who register in advance. For more information and the registration form, please visit: http://www.humanrights.uconn.edu/conf_2008.htm.

Dates to Remember

♦ Registration for the Spring 2009 semester and Intersession 2008-2009 via Student Administration System begins on Monday, October 27, 2008. If you have any questions about HR classes and/or requirements for the HR minor before registering for classes, please contact Professor Hiskes or Janna Mahfoud.

♦ Are you planning to do your HR internship in the Spring 2009 semester? If so, please be sure to speak with Professor Hiskes or Janna in the coming weeks and let us know about your internship plans.
The Human Rights Reception will take place on Tuesday, September 23 from 4-6PM at the Dodd Center Lounge. Please see below for details.

Are you part of a HR related student group at UConn? We would like to invite your organization to participate in the upcoming HR reception. Interested student groups are welcome to share information about their organizations and promote any events you have planned for the semester. Please contact Janna if you would like to join us and/or have any questions.

Namaste, the student run human rights journal at UConn, is currently looking for an editor. This is a great opportunity, especially for those interested in the position and are looking for a HR internship for the Spring semester. If you have any questions or would like to apply to be an editor of Namaste, please contact Rachel Jackson at rachel.jackson@uconn.edu.

Namaste is also now accepting essays, artwork, poetry, creative fiction, photography and much more for the next issue of the journal. This is an excellent opportunity to get published as a college student and a great resume builder! If you would like to learn more about the journal or submit your work, please contact Namaste at namastejournal@gmail.com or join the Namaste Journal on Facebook.

The Global Health and Human Rights Film Series is showing A Walk to Beautiful: “Giving birth should not be a death sentence. In the heart of Ethiopia five women fight to reclaim their lives…” Dinner, Film, and Panel Discussion will take place on Thursday, October 2, 5:00-8:00PM at the Patterson Auditorium. Please see attached flier for further details.

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**Dates to Remember**

**Celebrate Human Rights!**

The HRI is hosting a reception for all HR minors and others at UConn interested in human rights issues. Join HR faculty and fellow students for some great conversation & food (macaroons included), and to learn more about the HR minor, internships, and other HR events on campus!!

**When:** Tuesday, September 23 from 4-6PM

**Where:** The Dodd Center Lounge
The UConn Office of Environmental Policy is looking for students to participate in their workgroups! Possible workshop topics include: energy, environmental literacy, recycling, sustainable development, and transportation issues. Please contact meghan.ruta@uconn.edu, visit www.ecohusky.uconn.edu, or see attached flyer for more information.

The Kite Runner will be screened on Wednesday, September 10 at 4PM at the Konover Auditorium in the Dodd Center.

“Stumbling towards Tskhinvali: Georgia and the Origins of the Post Post-Cold War” on Thursday, September 11, 2008 at 4PM in the Dodd Center Lounge. Lincoln Mitchell, Columbia University, Arnold A. Saltzman Assistant Professor in the Practice of International Politics, will speak about the ongoing conflict in Georgia. Refreshments will be served.

The Sikh Student Association will screen “Divided We Fall: Americans in the Aftermath” on Monday, September 15 at 7PM in the Student Union Theater. The showing is open to the public and admission is free. The film will be followed by a discussion on hate crimes, race, and religion, facilitated by William Howe, Dr. Saud Anwar, and Angela Rola. Please see attached flyer for details.

Upcoming Events

September 10, 2008

Future Events

- The UConn Office of Environmental Policy is looking for students to participate in their workgroups! Possible workshop topics include: energy, environmental literacy, recycling, sustainable development, and transportation issues. Please contact meghan.ruta@uconn.edu, visit www.ecohusky.uconn.edu, or see attached flyer for more information.
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Dates to Remember

- Below are the meeting times for several HR related student organizations:
  - Amnesty International, Tuesdays @ 7:30PM in Program Room in Women’s Center
  - EcoHusky, Tuesday, Sept 9th @ 6:00PM in SU 321
  - Month of Kindness Committee, Wednesday, Sept 10th @ 7:30PM in SU 316
  - UConn Homelessness Project, Sept 11th @ 7:00PM in SU 320
  - UConn PIRG, Sept 11th @ 7:00PM in SU Ballroom
  - Idealists United, Mondays @ 7:00PM in CUE 134
  - College Democrats, Mondays @ 7:30PM in SU 304B
  - UConn QUAD, Mondays @ 9:00PM in SU Rm 312
  - College Republicans, Tuesdays @ 9PM in SU 410
  - UConn American Red Cross Club, Wednesdays @ 5:30PM in SU 320
  - EcoGarden, Thursdays @ 5:30PM in Young Bld Rm. 207

Contact Information & Office Hours:

- Professor Richard Hiskes: Tuesdays & Thursdays 10:30AM - 12:00PM & by appointment. Office: Monteith 120 Phone: (860) 486-2536 e-mail: richard.hiskes@uconn.edu
- Janna Mahfoud: Mondays 10:00AM-12:00PM Tuesdays 10:00AM-12:00PM Wednesdays 10:00AM-4:00PM Phone: (860) 486-8739 e-mail: janna.mahfoud@gmail.com
- Shaznene Hussain: Mondays 10:00AM - 12:30PM Tuesdays 10:00AM - 3:00PM Thursdays 10:00AM - 12:30PM Phone: (860) 486-8739 e-mail: shaznene.hussain@uconn.edu

Human Rights Institute University of Connecticut Thomas J. Dodd Research Center 405 Babbidge Road, U-1205 Storrs, CT, 06269, USA Email: humanrights@uconn.edu www.humanrights.uconn.edu Tel: 860-486-8739 Fax: 860-486-6332

All day, girls fill and empty heavy baskets of rock in Orissa, India, 2000. Photo from Robin Romano’s Stolen Childhoods Series.
The HRI would like to invite HR related student groups to participate in the upcoming reception for HR minors and others interested in human rights issues. Interested student groups are welcome to share information about their organizations and promote any events you have planned for the semester. Please contact Janna if you would like to join us and/or have any questions.

The HR Film Series kicks off with *The Kite Runner* on Wednesday, September 10 at 4PM at the Konover Auditorium in the Dodd Center.

Lincoln Mitchell, Assistant Professor in at Columbia University’s School of International and Public Affairs, will speak about the current crisis in Georgia and South Ossetia on Thursday, September 11 at 4PM in the Dodd Center Lounge.

The Campus-Wide Involvement Fair is taking place on Wednesday, September 3 from 2:00-8:00PM at the Student Union. This is a great opportunity to check out HR related students groups and become more involved with HR activities on campus.

The Study Abroad Fair will take place on Tuesday, September 9 from 4:00-7:00PM in the Rome Hall Ballroom, South Campus. This will be an excellent opportunity for anyone interested in doing their HR internship abroad to find out more information.

**Upcoming Events**

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**Dates to Remember**

- HR minors planning to graduate at the end of the Fall semester must complete a Plan of Study by September 19, 2008. Please come by the HRI or contact Janna if you need to complete the Human Rights Minor Plan of Study form.
Next week, Ecohuskies will be hosting Green Week (November 3-7). Green Week will include: Energy Day (Mon), Recycling Day (Tues), Wildlife Conservation Day (Wed), Water Day (Thurs), and Sustainable Food and Living Day (Fri). Please see the attached flyer or email ecohusky@gmail.com for more information.

Social Justice Week continues this week with several activities:

- **Wednesday (10/29)**
  - The Wasted Education Act - Dow Field at 12PM
  - Law Enforcement Against Prohibition - Castleman 212 at 7PM
  - "Super High Me" - Castleman 212 at 8:30PM

- **Thursday (10/30)**
  - Critical Mass Halloween Bike Ride - Fairfield Way at 11:30AM
  - Guerilla Picnic - SU Green at 12:30PM
  - Local Routes Presentation - Whitney Dining Hall at 2:30PM
  - Trip to the Eco Garden - Leaving from Whitney Dining Hall at 3:30PM
  - "The Future of Food" - Young Bldng 100 at 7PM

- **Friday (10/31)**
  - War is Death - Dow Field at 12PM
  - "The Price is Right!" War Edition - Dow Field at 1PM
  - Iraq Veterans against the War: Panel Discussion - Dodd Center at 4PM
  - Funk the War 2! - Outside the Dodd Center at 6PM

**Dates to Remember!**

- “The Fiction of Reconciliation:” Zakes Mda, South African novelist and playwright, will give the Visiting Gladstein Professor of Human Rights Annual Lecture on **Wednesday, October 29 at 4PM at the Konover Auditorium** in the Dodd Center. Reception to follow. Hope to see you all there!

- Registration for the Spring 2009 semester is ongoing. If you have any questions about classes or plan on completing your HR internship next semester, and have not already done so, please contact Professor Hiskes or Janna to discuss classes or internship details.

- **Don’t forget to vote on November 4th!**
October 22, 2008

Upcoming Events

* The Clinton Global Initiative University would like to invite you to join President Clinton and a growing community of students, global leaders, and university administrators at the second CGI U Annual Meeting, which will take place at the University of Texas at Austin from February 13-15, 2009. At CGI U, young people from around the world will come together to create innovative solutions to global challenges such as education, energy & climate change, global health, human rights & peace, and poverty alleviation. The deadline for early decision applications to CGI U is November 7, 2008. The final deadline for applications is December 12, 2008. Please see the attached flyer for further details.

* The Amnesty International USA Northeast Regional Conference will take place November 14-15, 2008 at Boston University. The HRI will reimburse the Pre-Registration Fee of $20 for up to five UConn students attending the conference. Please contact Janna if you have any questions and/or are interested in attending the conference. See attached flyer for additional conference details and the registration form.

* The Office of Community Outreach will be sponsoring a trip to Philadelphia during Spring Break to address the social problem of Health Care. Health Care is a universal issue across the world. A majority of people in the world are unable to receive adequate medical treatment for illness or disease that can be treated easily in more affluent countries. In America, where the large “baby boomer” generation is reaching the retirement age, it has become apparent that the country will be strained in order to provide the proper medical attention necessary to live a full and healthy life. The dates of the trip are March 7-15, 2009. Applications are available on www.volunteer.uconn.edu and will be accepted until November 6th, 2008. For more information, please contact katie.doyle@uconn.edu, visit www.volunteer.uconn.edu, or stop by the Office of Community Outreach (SU Room 302).

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October 15, 2008

Upcoming Events

♦ Looking for a HR course for the Winter Intersession? Professor Shareen Hertel will teach Comparative Human Rights (POLS 3212) in the Winter Intersession. Class will meet on M-F from 9 a.m. till noon in Monteith 221. Course description: The subject of human rights is generally organized around several core theoretical concepts, including but not limited to: 1) the divisions between what are called different "generations" or types of rights; 2) the distinction among different aspects of state responsibility for rights; and 3) the spheres in which rights are realized (i.e., public versus private sphere). This course explores and challenges these core concepts by contrasting human rights experiences in different regions and subject areas.

♦ The UNESCO Chair and the Institute for Comparative Human Rights will host the Human Rights and Religion Conference on Tuesday, October 21 at 9AM at the Student Union Theater. Please call 860.486.0647 or visit www.unescochair.uconn.edu for details.

♦ What Will You Do! Sexual Assault Awareness & Prevention Rally, organized by Community Outreach, will take place on Wednesday, October 15 from 7-8PM at the Student Union Green. The rally intends to bring the UConn community together against sexual violence on our campus.

♦ Interested in contributing to the hurricane relief effort? Alternative Spring Break Information Session will take place on Wednesday, October 15 (or 22) from 8-9PM in Wilson (South A), Rm. 113. Join the Honors Council as they travel to the Gulf Coast during spring break! Attend one of two info sessions to learn more about the trip for this year, a little about the trip last year, to pick up an application, and to ask questions!

OPEN TO ALL UCONN STUDENTS! More information is available at: UConnHC@gmail.com.

♦ Election 2008: UConn is hosting a day-long event on the 2008 race for president. You are invited to hear from UConn faculty experts, media commentators and offer your opinion on the election! The event will take place on Monday, October 20 from 9AM-2:30PM in the Konover Auditorium in the Dodd Center. Please see attached flyer for details.

Dates to Remember!

♦ The Dodd Center will host the Raymond and Beverly Sackler Lecture, "Passionate Politics: The Intersection of Gender, Culture & Human Rights" by Dr. Charlotte Bunch on Monday, October 20 at 4PM at the Konover Auditorium in the Dodd Center. Dr. Bunch is the Founder and Executive Director of the Center for Women's Global Leadership at Rutgers University. The lecture is free and open to the public. Reception to follow.
HR News & Events

October 8, 2008

Upcoming Events

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♦ Namaste, UConn's student run human rights journal, is now accepting essays, artwork, poetry, creative fiction, photography and much more for the next issue of the journal. This is an excellent opportunity to get published as a college student and a great resume builder! If you would like to learn more about the journal or submit your work, please contact Namaste at namastejournal@gmail.com, join the Namaste Journal on Facebook, or contact Janna at the HRI.

♦ The Rainbow Center will host Vicki L. Eaklor, Professor of History at Alfred University, presenting "Outsiders/Insiders: Mainstreaming LGBT Rights" on Wednesday, October 15 from 12:13:00PM at the Rainbow Center, Room 403 of the Student Union. The lecture will be an overview of the struggle to achieve equal rights for LGBT people in the U.S., with emphasis on the years since 1980. Professor Eaklor's comprehensive survey, "Queer America: A GLBT History of the Twentieth Century," was published last spring by Greenwood Press. The lecture is free and open to the public. Attendees are also welcome to bring their lunches to the lecture.

Dates to Remember!

♦ The HRI and UConn's Humanities Institute are hosting a conference, In the Balance: Humanitarianism & Responsibility. The conference will be held from October 10-11, 2008 and is free and open to all UConn faculty, staff, and students. Breakfast and lunch will be provided for those who register in advance. For more information and the registration form, please visit: www.humanrights.uconn.edu/conf_2008.htm.
HR News & Events

October 1, 2008

Upcoming Events

♦ Interested in the doing an internship in Guatemala? The UConn Study Abroad Program, Honors Program, and School of Business partnered with the Social Entrepreneur Corps to provide a unique eight week program that integrates business and development theory with practice. The goal is to offer participants with an opportunity to learn Spanish, to gain a unique understanding of indigenous cultures, and to become skilled at analyzing rural economic development in Guatemala. The program will hold a symposium on October 6 at 6:30PM in the School of Business 211 for those interested in finding out more about the program. You may also contact Dr. Linda Klein at lin.klein@business.uconn.edu or go to https://secure.sa.uconn.edu/sap/studyabroad/ for more information.

♦ Ecofeminism in a Transnational World. The UConn Women’s Studies Program is hosting the 21st Annual Conference on Women and Gender on Friday and Saturday, March 20 and 21 2009 and is seeking proposals for papers, workshops, artwork, performances, poster sessions, and other contributions that speak to this year’s conference theme examining the global intersections of gender and the environment. Please see attached flier or visit www.Womens.studies.uconn.edu for further details.

♦ Willimantic Downtown Country Fair! Want to know more about cars that run on vegetable oil? How about beekeeping? or cooking with solar power? You Can! The Willimantic Downtown Country Fair will take place on Sunday, October 5th from 11-5pm! Come enjoy a festival of local farmers, craftspeople, artists, musicians and delicious food vendors. There are free workshops all day long including how to start a CSA (Community Supported Agriculture). Check out the fair at www.willimanticfood.coop or contact Kristin @ 368-1791 to volunteer or for more information!

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HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTE

HR News & Events

November 19, 2008

Upcoming Events

♦ Please join Idealists United for a Hunger Banquet on Wednesday November 19, 2008 at 7pm at St. Thomas Aquinas Church in Storrs, CT. Attendees will get a first-hand experience of global income disparity and be part of an open dialogue on world hunger. Tickets can be purchased in advance for $5.00, or for $6.00 at the door. You can purchase tickets from any Idealist United Member. If you have further questions please contact andrew.wicks@uconn.edu for more information.

♦ Northeast Community Food Collaborative is putting on a Food Drive for Thanksgiving. The Food Drive will be running the week of November 17-21. Please drop off all non-perishable food items at any of the Cultural Centers in the Student Union, or contact Emily Galanto at Emily.galanto@uconn.edu to have items picked up. There will also be a collection table on November 21st in the Student Union for any last minute donations.

♦ WAIM’s 17th Annual Walk for Warmth: Many families are faced with the “Heat or Eat” dilemma – having to choose between food and fuel during the winter months. This puts many kids at risk of removal from their homes simply because their parents can’t keep up with their increasing bills. You can help by committing to walk an easy two-mile route around Willimantic on November 23, 2008 and having your friends and family sponsor you. A minimum of $20 in sponsorships is required to participate and 100% of the funds raised support WAIM’s Energy Fund. For information and how to register call WAIM at 456-7270 x12 or visit www.waimct.org.

♦ True Colors 16th Annual Conference Needs Your Help! This is the largest LGBTQIA student issues conference in the nation. To volunteer or learn more, please come to the next General Organizing Meeting on Tuesday, December 2nd at 6PM at the Rainbow Center, Student Union, 4th Floor or contact katherine.annulli@uconn.edu.

♦ The Connecticut Coalition for Human Rights is hosting Fulfilling the Promise of Human Rights: the Universal Declaration at 60, a statewide conference marking the 60th anniversary of the UDHR on Saturday, Dec 6th from 8:30-4pm at Quinnipiac University in Hamden, CT. Please see attached flier or visit www.udhr.net for more information.

Dates to Remember!

♦ The HR Film Series continues with a showing of “The Price of Sugar” on Wednesday, November 19 at 4PM at the Konover Auditorium in the Dodd Center. The film addresses Article 24 of the UDHR on labor rights/rest & leisure and documents the grueling conditions of workers on sugar plantations in the Dominican Republic.
Attention Human Rights Minors! **HR Internship Opportunity:** Dr. Richard Wilson, Director of the HRI, has been asked to serve as Chair of the Connecticut Advisory Committee of the US Commission on Civil Rights (an independent, bipartisan agency established by Congress in 1957 to focus on matters of race, color, religion, sex, age, disability, or national origin) and is looking for an accomplished undergraduate student to serve as his assistant. We are looking for a student with strong interpersonal, writing, and research skills. If you are interested in applying for this great internship opportunity, please contact Janna for more information.

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The president of *Haiti Lumiere de Demain, Inc.* (Haiti’s Light for Tomorrow) will give a presentation on Wednesday, November 12 about Haiti’s educational system and his organization. The presentation will be from 6-7PM in Wilbur Cross, Room 110. Haiti’s Light for Tomorrow, Inc. is a non-profit NGO working to promote literacy and educational opportunities among Haitian children in public primary and secondary schools, particularly those in rural and impoverished regions.

**Upcoming Events**

- The UConn Youth for Human Rights club is having a Human Rights Activist Panel discussion on Monday, November 17 from 6-8pm in the SU Theatre. Please see the attached flyer or email: Youthforhumanrightsuconn@gmail.com for more information.

Upcoming Events

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HR News & Events

November 5, 2008

Upcoming Events

♦ Attention Human Rights Minors! **HR Internship Opportunity**: Dr. Richard Wilson, Director of the HRI, has been asked to serve as Chair of the Connecticut Advisory Committee of the US Commission on Civil Rights (an independent, bipartisan agency established by Congress in 1957 to focus on matters of race, color, religion, sex, age, disability, or national origin) and is looking for an accomplished undergraduate student to serve as his assistant. We are looking for a student with strong interpersonal, writing, and research skills. If you are interested in applying for this great internship opportunity, please contact Janna for more information.

♦ Looking for a HR course for the Winter Intersession? Professor Shareen Hertel will teach **Comparative Human Rights (POLS 3212)** in the Winter Intersession. Class will meet on M-F from 9 a.m.-noon in Monteith 221. Course description: The subject of human rights is generally organized around several core theoretical concepts, including but not limited to: 1) the divisions between what are called different “generations” or types of rights; 2) the distinction among different aspects of state responsibility for rights; and 3) the spheres in which rights are realized (i.e., public versus private sphere). This course explores and challenges these core concepts by contrasting human rights experiences in different regions and subject areas.

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Dates to Remember!

♦ This week, EcoHusky is holding a number of events for Green Week to raise awareness about environmental issues. Each day has a different theme related to an environmental issue. Please see the attached schedule or contact the EcoHusky student group at ecohusky@gmail.com for more information.

♦ The Office of Community Outreach will be sponsoring a trip to Philadelphia during Spring Break to address the social problem of Health Care. The dates of the trip are March 7-15, 2009. Applications are available on www.volunteer.uconn.edu and will be accepted until **November 6th, 2008**. For more information, please contact katie.doyle@uconn.edu, visit www.volunteer.uconn.edu, or stop by the Office of Community Outreach (SU Room 302).
World AIDS Week: HIV/AIDS Vigil. A candlelit vigil for those living with HIV/AIDS and to remember those we have lost. will take place on Thursday, December 04, 2008 from 7PM - 9PM in the Student Union, Room 310. Admission is free and the event is open to the public. More information is available at: http://www.heatlhed.uconn.edu.

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From the Margins to the Mainstream: GLBTQ Culture and History, 1968-2008. The University of Connecticut Libraries exhibit is open until December 18, 2008 at the Dodd Center Gallery. Admission is free and the exhibit is open to the public. More information about the exhibit can be found at http://www.lib.uconn.edu/about/exhibits/lgbtq/index.html.

FACEAIDS UConn is having a fundraiser TODAY, Dec 3rd, at 7:00pm in the Dodd Center to benefit South African children orphaned by HIV/AIDS. There will be a short video and presentation by UConn Professor Rafael Perez-Escamilla, a prominent international nutritionist. All donations accepted. Chance to win an iPod Mini. Please see flyer for more details.

Dates to Remember!

- A quick reminder to all minors planning to do their Human Rights Internship in the Spring 2009 semester: If you have not already done so, please contact Professor Hiskes or Janna to enroll in the Internship course before the end of the semester.