We are happy to welcome a new Graduate Assistant to the Human Rights Institute, Archana Krishnan. Archana will be taking over the duties of Janna Mahfoud and will assist Professor Hiskes in administering the Human Rights Minor. If you have any questions about the Minor or HR internships, please contact Archana at archana.krishnan@uconn.edu or stop by the HR during her office hours.

Haiti Earthquake Response: The earthquake that struck Haiti last week has taken an immense toll on the country’s infrastructure, economy, and people. The Office of Community Outreach is organizing a campus-wide meeting on Thursday, January 21st at 7:00pm in the African American Cultural Center in the Student Union. Please consider attending the meeting if you are interested in developing events or activities to raise funds or support recovery efforts in Haiti.

The Hole in the Wall Gang Camp in Ashford, CT, a nonprofit center serving children and their families coping with cancer and other serious illnesses, is currently accepting staff position applications for the summer. They have 12-week staff positions and 1-week volunteer positions available. Please see the attached flyer for details about the Camp and how to apply or visit: www.holeinthewallgang.org.

The Rainbow Center Coffee House kicks off this Friday, January 22nd! Every Friday evening from 6:00-10:00pm, the Rainbow Center (SU 403) offers free coffee, tea, cocoa and treats. Great conversation, board games, poetry, music, relaxation, and a great place to meet new people or visit with old friends!! For more information, please visit: www.rainbowcenter.uconn.edu.

Study Abroad Fair will be held on Wednesday, February 3rd in the Rome Ballroom, from 4:00-7:00pm. If you are considering completing your HR internship while studying abroad, this is a great way to learn more about the opportunities available.

Recyclemania 2010 is running from January 17th to March 27th. Help UConn beat rival schools by recycling and reducing your waste every day. Mother Earth will thank you!! For more information on how to recycle and what to recycle, visit http://www.ecohusky.uconn.edu.

Upcoming Events

Announcements

If you plan to complete a human rights internship this semester and would like to receive HR minor credit for it, please set up an appointment with Archana Krishnan ASAP! Please see her office hours in the left hand column and email her with a time you would like to meet. All students interested in receiving internship credit must be enrolled in HRTS 3245 by Monday, February 1st.

Attention HR Minors: Planning to graduate this semester? To graduate with your human rights minor you must meet with Archana Krishnan to fill out a Plan of Study form by Friday, February 12th. Please contact Archana to set up an appointment during her office hours.
SlAAm (sampling literature by Asian Americans) Book Club: On Tuesday, February 2nd, from 4:30-6:00pm in the Dodd Center Konover Auditorium, author Jamie Ford will read and discuss his recently published novel *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet*, a New York Times bestseller. Set during World War II and present time, it tells a story of love and loss of a Chinese American boy, and the impact the war and the internment of Japanese Americans have on his life. This event marks UConn’s observance of the Day of Remembrance - February 19, 1942 - the day Executive Order 9066 was signed by Pres. Roosevelt, to remove all Japanese and Americans of Japanese ancestry from western coastal regions to interior guarded camps.

The International Women’s Group will meet this Thursday, January 28th (today!!) from 5:00-7:00pm at SU 307. This bi-weekly meeting bring international women together to help them meet the challenges of their new life and to make their U.S. experience a rewarding one. Members participate in discussions, demonstrations, craft workshops, and often share delicious food from many lands. American students are encouraged to participate.

Looking for an internship? What strategies are you using to locate an internship? The Career Services Spring Workshop will be held on Monday, February 1st from 4:00-5:00pm at the Dodd Center Konover Auditorium.

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The Human Rights in the USA Film Series continues this semester with a showing of *Trouble the Water* (2008) at 4:00pm in the Dodd Center Konover Auditorium. The film follows a New Orleans couple’s experiences during and after Hurricane Katrina as they struggle to navigate FEMA bureaucracy, find housing, cope with trauma, and build a new life.

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NAMASTE, the student human right journal, is accepting submissions for this year’s publication. The journal is particularly interested in your personal experiences, interactions, and thoughts about human rights situations. Work ranging from academia to photography and artwork, journal entries, experiences abroad, and short works of fiction are welcome. Any student can submit their work; you do not have to be a human rights minor. The deadline for this year’s submissions is February 19th. To submit your work, or if you have any questions e-mail namasterjournal@gmail.com.

Gaza Freedom March Report: On Thursday, February 4th at 7:00pm (Student Center, St. Thomas Aquinas Chapel, 46 North Eagleville Road), Gaza Freedom March and UConn student Johanna Rivera will talk about her recent experience in Cairo with Code Pink’s international efforts to break the siege in Gaza and take humanitarian aid to Gaza’s suffering people. Come and listen to the stories from her trip and learn how you can get involved!

Black History Month Opening Ceremonies: On Thursday, February 4th, from 6:00-9:00pm, The African American Cultural Center will be hosting its Black History Month Opening event at the Student Union Ballroom. Dr. Jeffrey Ogbar, Associate Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences will be the keynote speaker. The program will include a informational fair and performances by the UConn All-stars, Nubian Foxes, and Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. In order to attend the dinner, you must attend the Circle of Influence Art Show reception on February 4, 2010, 4:00-6:00pm. For more information, please visit http://aacc.uconn.edu.

Need help finding an internship? The Internship/Co-op Fair will be held on Wednesday, February 10th from 12:00-3:00pm in the Rome Ballroom. For more information, please visit internships.uconn.edu.

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Journey House Comes to the AACC: Journey House is a juvenile detention center in Willimantic, CT that is in partnership with the Project Choice Mentorship Program. The program works with at risk youth from 11-21 years of age. If you are interested in learning more about Journey House, youth representatives and staff from the home will be visiting the African American Cultural Center (Student Union) to share information about the center and their experiences on Thursday, February 11th from 5:30-6:30pm.

The “Human rights of Domestic Workers: Hope in Hard Times” Conference will take place on Saturday, March 27th at the Dodd Research Center. The conference will consist of three plenary sessions (9:00-4:00 pm) and is a collaboration between the Women’s Studies program, Institute of Puerto Rican and Latino Studies, and Asian American Studies. Save the Date!

Attention HR Minors! Planning to graduate this semester? To graduate with your human rights minor you must meet with Archana Krishnan to fill out a Plan of Study form by THIS Friday, February 12th. Please contact Archana to set up an appointment during her office hours.
HR News & Events

Upcoming Events

- **HUSKYTHON 2010, February 20th-21st.** The HuskyTHON Dance Marathon is UConn’s largest student-run philanthropic event that raises funds for the Connecticut Children’s Medical Center and the Children’s Miracle Network. Since its inception in 1998, HuskyTHON has raised over $275,000 for Connecticut children. So put on your dancing shoes and join the other dancers starting at 6:00pm this Saturday, the 20th in the Hugh S. Greer Field House. You can find more information about the dance marathon, sign up to be a HuskyTHON dancer, or sponsor a participant at www.huskython.uconn.edu.

- **Alternative Breaks.** The Office of Community Outreach is seeking applications for its Alternative Breaks program. There are three weekend trips that each focus on a different social issue—Bridgeport (Affordable Housing), NYC (HIV/AIDS), and Boston (Homelessness). Trips will all leave on April 9th and return on April 11th. All applications are due by **Thursday, February 18th** at 4:30pm. To apply, visit www.volunteer.uconn.edu.

- The **Careers for the Common Good Fair** will take place on **Wednesday, February 24th** at the SU Ballroom (Rooms 330 and 331) from 12:00-3:00pm. The purpose of the fair is provide information on job, volunteer, or internship opportunities to undergraduate students who are thinking about going to graduate school or working in the Human Services field.

- **2010 Summer Internship Program:** Break Away, a nonprofit organization that supports the development of quality Alternative Break programs, is now accepting applications for their summer internship program. The internship will be based in Atlanta, GA from May 20th to August 13th. Break Away will cover all travel and living costs in addition to providing a modest monthly stipend. Those interested in developing leadership skills, engaging in intense learning experiences, and strengthening the national Alternative Break program are encouraged to apply. To access the application form, please visit www.alternativebreaks.org.

- **More Internship Opportunities:** This summer, join OurEarth.org, a national non-profit organization and grassroots initiative, to work on a number of diverse environmental projects, be in a team with students from other colleges, and earn course credit. For more information about the organization, please visit www.OurEarth.org, or contact John Ullman at (410) 878-6485 or at jgu@duke.edu. If you are interested in an internship, you can read the internship program description and application at www.ourearth.org/students/OurEarth_2010_Application.doc.

Announcements

The **deadline** for submitting your work to NAMASTE, UConn’s student human rights journal, is THIS Friday, **February 19th**. Any student can submit their work; you do not have to be a human rights minor. To submit your work, or if you have any questions e-mail namastejournal@gmail.com.
Invisible Children Meeting: On Thursday, February 25th from 7:00-8:00pm in Arjona 403, a meeting will be held to raise awareness and funds for the war-torn region of northern Uganda through the globally-recognized Invisible Children campaign. For more information, please contact invisiblechildrenuconn@gmail.com.

She’s a Boy I Knew Film Screening. On Thursday, February 25th, the Dodd Konover Auditorium will screen the film She’s a Boy I Knew with director Gwen Haworth from 7:00-9:00pm. Using archival family footage, interviews, phone messages, and hand-drawn animation, Haworth’s documentary begins with Steven Haworth’s decision to come out to his family about his life-long female gender identity. The resulting auto-ethnography is not only an exploration into the filmmaker’s process of transition from biological male to female, from Steven to Gwen, but also an emotionally charged account of the individual experiences, struggles, and stakes that her two sisters, mother, father, best friend and wife brought to Gwen’s transition.

Rainbow Center Movie Series: Paris is Burning. The Rainbow Center Movie Series starts with the screening of the documentary Paris is Burning on Saturday, February 27th at SU 403 from 3:00-5:00pm. The documentary is an unblinking behind-the-scenes story of fashion obsessed New Yorkers who created “voguing” and drag balls, and turned these raucous celebrations into a powerful expression of personal pride. Paris is Burning is an intimate portrait of one urban community, a world in which the allure of high fashion, status and wealth becomes an affirmation of love, acceptance and joy. For more information, visit www.rainbowcenter.uconn.edu.

UConn Social Entrepreneurship Corps in Guatemala. Social entrepreneurship is one of the most effective strategies for lifting people out of poverty, and The Social Entrepreneurship Corps is on the cutting edge of this approach in Latin America. During your eight weeks in Guatemala through the UConn Study Abroad program, you will have the opportunity to learn the theories and then apply them in practice. The Study Abroad Summer deadline has now been extended to Monday, March 1st! For details, please visit: www.studyabroad.uconn.edu.

The second annual Democracy & Democratization Conference will be held on Thursday and Friday, February 26th and 27th at the Dodd Research Center. The keynote address, Critical Citizens Revisited: Global Support for Democratic Governance will be delivered on Friday, Feb. 27th at 5:45pm by Pippa Norris, Harvard Professor of Political Science and the McGuire Lecturer in Comparative Politics. Paper presentations will begin at 10:00am on the 26th and 8:00am on the 27th. Participants will discuss topics including human rights, political participation, political theory, and political development focusing on a variety of regions in the world. The conference is free and open to the public.

Upcoming Events

The Careers for the Common Good Fair will take place TOMORROW Wednesday, February 24th at the SU Ballroom (Rooms 330 and 331) from 12:00-3:00pm.
HR News & Events

Upcoming Events

♦ UConn Co-op Book Signing. On Tuesday, March 2nd at 4:00 pm, Dr. Manisha Desai, Associate Professor & Director of Women’s Studies will present the book Gender, Family, and Law in a Globalizing Middle East and South Asia edited by Kenneth M. Cuno and herself. The essays in this provocative collection examine issues of gender, family, and law in the Middle East and South Asia. In particular, the book examines the impact of colonialism on law, family, and gender relations; the role of religious politics in writing family law and the implications for gender relations; and the tension between international standards emerging from UN conferences and conventions.

♦ Book Discussion: “Half the Sky.” Join Sherly WuDunn, Pulitzer Prize-winning author, as she discusses the book Half the Sky on Wednesday, March 3rd from 7:00-9:00 pm at the Jorgensen Center for the performing Arts. The book chronicles an extraordinary array of women struggling under dire circumstances—and an equally extraordinary group that have triumphed. Half the Sky is a powerful piece of journalism by WuDunn and her husband and co-author Nicholas Kristof who make a brilliant argument for investing in the health and autonomy of women worldwide. The lecture will be followed by a book signing event. For more information, please visit www.halftheskymovement.org/.

♦ Edwin Way Teale Lecture Series on Nature and the Environment. Dr. Robert J. Glennon, Morris K. Udall Professor of Law and Public Policy at the University of Arizona, will present the lecture Unquenchable: America’s Water Crisis and What To Do About It on Thursday, March 4th at 4:00 pm at the Dodd Center, Konover Auditorium. The lecture will discuss America’s dependence on water, the effect of water shortages on the environment and American life, and market-based solutions that value water as both a commodity and a fundamental human right. For more information, please visit: doddcenter.uconn.edu/events/teale/teale.htm.

♦ Invisible Children Meeting: On Thursday, March 4th from 7:00-8:00pm in Arjona 403, a meeting will be held to raise awareness and funds for the war-torn region of northern Uganda through the globally-recognized Invisible Children campaign. For more information, please contact Jess Montana at invisiblechildrenuconn@gmail.com.

♦ Human Trafficking Lecture. On Monday, March 15th from 4:00-5:30 pm in the Babbidge Library Class of ’47 room, Keith David Watenpaugh will present a lecture on Human Trafficking in the Post-Armenian Genocide Middle East and the Dilemmas of Modern Humanitarianism (1920-1926) drawn from his forthcoming book Bread from Stone: The Middle East and the Making of Modern Humanitarianism. The talk will examine the League of Nations’ efforts on behalf of displaced Armenian women and children in the early post-World War I period.

♦ Human Rights Film: "Sicko" (2007). The Human Rights in the USA Film Series continues on Tuesday, March 16th from 4:00-5:30pm in the Dodd Center Konover Auditorium. Director Michael Moore follows the trailblazing success of his previous films, the Oscar-winning Bowling for Columbine and Fahrenheit 9/11 with this portrayal of the U.S. health care system. The documentary profiles the lives and experiences of ordinary Americans whose lives have been impacted by the lack of access to health care in the United States, and explores the causes and consequences of this crisis.

WHAT SEEMS TO BE THE PROBLEM?
HR News & Events

Upcoming Events

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♦ **LGBT and AIDS Lecture.** Join South African activist Zackie Achmat on **Thursday, March 18th** from 2:30-4:00 pm at the Dodd Konover Auditorium for a lecture on the current wave of homophobia on the African continent. A reception will follow the lecture. Achmat is the co-founder of the National Coalition for Gay and Lesbian Equality, and the Treatment Action Campaign (TAC) in 1998, an organization created to address the AIDS epidemic in South Africa. Achmat is also a filmmaker having directed several documentaries such as *Gay Life is Best* (1993) and *Apostles of Civilized Vice* (2000). He is also the recipient of many awards the Jonathan Mann Award for Global Health and Human Rights in 2003, the Nelson Mandela Award for Health and Human Rights in 2003, and was nominated for a Nobel Peace Prize in 2004. This event is sponsored by the Rainbow Center, the Human Rights Institute, the University of Connecticut Libraries, and the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center.

♦ **“The Last Abortion Clinic” Film Screening.** The pro-choice film *The Last Abortion Clinic* detailing the last surviving abortion clinic in Mississippi will be screened on **Thursday, March 18th**, from 7:00-9:00 pm in the SU Women’s Center Program Room. With all of the other clinics shut down by anti-choice adversaries women have only one place left to turn. Learn about the growing lack of access to a supposedly legal procedure in the U.S. For more information, please visit [http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/clinic/](http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/clinic/).

♦ **Art, Memory, and Human Rights Lecture.** On **Tuesday, March 23rd**, esteemed Argentine photographer, visual artist, and human rights activist Marcelo Brodsky will present a public lecture on his recent work at the Dodd Center Konover Auditorium from 4:30-6:00 pm. His previous projects include *Buena Memoria Good Memory*, a photographic tribute to family members and friends who “disappeared” during Argentina’s “Dirty War” (1976-1983); *Nexo/Nexus*, which draws together state terrorism and anti-Semitism in Argentina with the Holocaust; and *Memory in Construction*, a compilation of essays and artworks revolving around the problem of creating a Memory Museum for the victims of the “Dirty War.”

♦ **Film Series—Domestic Workers.** As a prelude to the “Human Rights of Domestic Workers: Hope in Hard Times” conference scheduled for March 27th, Lambda Theta Alpha and Kappa Phi Lambda will be hosting a film series on **Tuesday, March 23th** from 6:00-9:00 pm at the Rainbow Center. Both the film series and the conference are deeply informed by the global dimensions of care work, highlighting the crucial organizing work on behalf of the unheralded, low-wage and mostly immigrant and female workforce, from three broad perspectives of Activism, Scholarship, and Policy. For further information regarding this event, please contact Puerto Rican and Latino Studies at prladm02@uconn.edu.
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♦ **The Arts and Human Rights: Perspectives from Latin America.** On Wednesday, March 24th, there will be roundtable discussion from 10:00am – 12:00pm at the Student Union Theatre by two world famous Latin American artists - Alfredo Jaar from Chile and Marcelo Brodsky from Argentina. Given that March 24th is the anniversary of the 1976 coup in Argentina that started the so-called "Dirty War," Jaar and Brodsky will focus their comments on art and human rights around the topic of creating memorials to the victims of state terrorism. The discussion between Jaar and Brodsky will be moderated by Professor Robin Greeley of UConn’s Art and Art History Department.

♦ **Feminism in Action: The 22nd Annual Conference on Women & Gender** will convene on Friday, March 26th from 9:00am - 6:00pm at the Dodd Center Konover Auditorium and the Student Union. The conference will focus on the diverse, intersecting and even contradictory ways that we practice (and at times fail to practice) feminism through pedagogy, activism, art, scholarship and daily life. For more detailed information such as the schedule, panels, venues, times, speaker bios, and registration, please visit [www.womens.studies.uconn.edu](http://www.womens.studies.uconn.edu) or email wsinfo@uconn.edu. Admission to this conference is free.

♦ **Conference on “Human Rights of Domestic Workers: Hope in Hard Times”.** The conference on Domestic Workers will convene on Saturday, March 27th from 9:00am – 4:00pm at the Dodd Center Konover Auditorium. Funded by a Human Rights Initiative grant, the conference brings together grassroots domestic worker organizers and advocates in conversation with interdisciplinary scholars to examine the political economic dimensions of gender/care work and the human rights campaigns by domestic/household workers. The conference is free and open to the public, and no advance registration is required. Please see the attached flyer for further details.

♦ **NGO Nuru International** will give a presentation on their work to eradicate extreme poverty through holistic empowerment in Kuria, Kenya on Tuesday, March 30th from 2:30-3:30pm at the Dodd Center Konover Auditorium.
NGO Nuru International will give a presentation on their work to eradicate extreme poverty through holistic empowerment in Kuria, Kenya on Tuesday, March 30th (TODAY!) from 2:30-3:30pm at the Dodd Center Konover Auditorium. Come out and learn how ordinary people can take extraordinary actions together to help end extreme poverty. For more information please visit: www.nuruinternational.org/.

Lecture on Native American Gender and Sexuality. The Rainbow Center’s Out to Lunch Lecture Series continues this semester on Wednesday, March 31st from 12:00-1:30pm at SU 403 with a presentation by Harlan Pruden entitled, Two-Spirit People Then and Now - Sex, Gender and Sexuality in Historical and Contemporary Native America. The Indigenous peoples of North America have many cultural traditions that have often been misrepresented or suppressed through the colonization process. Some of these are the significantly different perspectives about sex, gender and sexuality than those imported from Western Europe. In the 21st century, the tradition of gender and sexual diversity has passed to today’s Native peoples in what is generically referred to as two-spirit. This presentation will examine the past, present, and future of today’s two-spirit tradition, community and their roles within their communities. It will also examine how Native American traditions can enrich advocacy on issues surrounding gender diversity and sexuality for the LGBT and mainstream America. For more information, please visit: www.rainbowcenter.uconn.edu/Programs/.

Human Rights of the Global Poor Lecture. On Thursday, April 1st, philosopher Thomas Pogge from Yale University will present his lecture The Human Rights of the Global Poor: What Can We Do? at 4:00pm in the Dodd Center Konover Auditorium. Please see the attached flyer for more details.

Human Rights Program at American University. The Academy on Human Rights and Humanitarian Law at the American University Washington College of Law invites applications for its Specialized Human Rights Program scheduled from May 31st to June 18th in Washington, D.C. Participants can earn academic credit, a Diploma, or a Certificate of Attendance. The program brings together over 180 participants from over 35 countries with diverse backgrounds and levels of experience. The deadline to apply is May 1st. For more information, please visit www.wcl.american.edu/hracademy/.

Summer School of Transitional Justice. The Transitional Justice Institute at the University of Ulster, Northern Ireland, is inviting applications for its third annual Summer School on Transitional Justice. The Summer School is a week long residential course, consisting of a series of interactive lectures, workshops and roundtable discussions on key aspects of transitional justice. The 2010 Summer School will focus specifically on the relationship between gender and transitional justice. Participants will examine the role of women in transition and consider some of the challenges, including gendered violence, equality and security that women face in conflicted societies. For further information, including application forms, please visit: http://transitionaljustice.ulster.ac.uk/
Upcoming Events

♦ Human Rights Lecture on Disability Rights: On Thursday, April 8th, Prof. Gunn Strand Hutchinson of Bodø University College, Norway will present his lecture entitled The UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities: A View from Nordic Countries from 2:00-3:15pm at the Dodd Center Konover Auditorium. Dr. Hutchinson will discuss the new United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the status of ratification and implementation of the treaty in Nordic countries. For more information, please contact Kathryn Libal kathryn.libal@uconn.edu.

♦ The Yom Hashoah Holocaust Day of Remembrance will take place this Friday, April 9th. At 1:30pm there will be a lecture by Holocaust survivor Albert Linder about his family’s experiences during the Holocaust. In 1941 Albert and his family were deported to a Concentration Camp in the Ukraine, where they spend three years. In 1945 they made their way to Italy, with help from the Jewish underground, in order to go to Palestine. Unable to get into Palestine because of the British Blockade, the Linders made contact and finally immigrated to the U.S. in 1949. The lecture will be followed by a question and answer session. At 2:30pm, the Alpha Epsilon Pi Fraternity will be sponsoring a “Walk to Remember,” around campus clad in black attire, to commemorate the lives lost in the Holocaust and other genocides. Also all day, from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. there will be a “Wall of Hope” on Dow Field where everyone is encouraged to sign their names or write a tribute note in memory of any genocidal event.

♦ Haiti Relief Run. Help the Haiti relief effort by participating in the 5k run hosted by Engineers Without Borders on Saturday, April 10th from 10:00am–12:00pm at Fairfield Way outside the Student Union. The registration fee is $10 for UConn students and $15 for non-UConn students. For more information or to pre-register at a discounted rate, please visit http://ewb.engr.uconn.edu.

♦ “No Witness” is an interactive play which is designed to challenge viewers perceptions on date and acquaintance rape. Audience members will be chosen to be jury members and will decide the fate of the accused. The play will be held on Monday, April 12th at 7:00pm in the Student Union Theater. For further information regarding this event, please contact Samantha Ribeiro at Samantha.ribeiro@uconn.edu.

♦ Lecture on Puerto Rican Sexual Minorities and Gender Nonconformity. The Rainbow Center’s Out to Lunch Lecture Series continues on Wednesday, April 14th from 12:00-1:30pm at SU 403 with a presentation by Marysol Asencio entitled La Vida Loca: Migrant Puerto Rican Sexual Minorities and Gender-Non-Conformity. The talk will focus on the attitudes, beliefs, and experiences of 74 Puerto Rican lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender migrants residing in NYC and Hartford. CT around issues of gender non-conformity, transgender identity, and sexuality. Asencio will also address how gender nonconformity is treated within the family, community, and larger society, both in Puerto Rico and Stateside; and how society uses transgender and gender nonconforming people to maintain heteronormativity and appropriate gender performances.

♦ Save the date! The annual interdisciplinary Graduate Human Rights Conference will be held on Friday, April 16th, from 9:00am–5:00pm at the Dodd Center Konover Auditorium. The conference is free to attend and breakfast and lunch will be provided. For more information, please contact Shaznene Hussain at shaznene.hussain@uconn.edu.
Upcoming Events

♦ Human Rights Film: “The Garden” (2008): The 2009-2010 Human Rights in the USA Film Series concludes with the final film The Garden on Tuesday, April 13th from 4:00-6:00pm in the Dodd Center Konover Auditorium. Nominated for the Academy Award for Best Documentary film 2008, and winner of the Silverdocs Grand Jury Award in 2008, The Garden is an engaging and powerful look at the political and social battle over the largest community garden in the U.S, located in south central Los Angeles. The film shows how the politics of power and greed (backroom deals, land developing, green politics, money) tragically intersect with working class families who rely on this communal garden for their livelihood. The Garden exposes the fault lines in American society and raises crucial and challenging questions about liberty, equality, and justice for the poorest and most vulnerable among us.

♦ The third annual interdisciplinary Graduate Human Rights Conference will be held on Friday, April 16th, from 9:00am-5:00pm at the Dodd Center Konover Auditorium. The keynote address, “Human Rights and Business: A Frontier in Human Rights Norm Contestation,” will be given by Joanne Bauer, Senior Researcher and New York Representative of the Business & Human Rights Resource Centre and professor at the School of International and Public Affairs at Columbia University. The conference is free to attend and open to all UConn students, staff, and faculty. For more information, please contact Shaznene Hussain at shaznene.hussain@uconn.edu or see the attached flyer for details.

♦ Lecture on Puerto Rican Sexual Minorities and Gender Nonconformity. The Rainbow Center’s Out to Lunch Lecture Series continues on Wednesday, April 14th from 12:00-1:30pm at SU 403 with a presentation by Marysol Asencio entitled La Vida Loca: Migrant Puerto Rican Sexual Minorities and Gender-Non-Conformity. The talk will focus on the attitudes, beliefs, and experiences of 74 Puerto Rican lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender migrants residing in NYC and Hartford, CT around issues of gender non-conformity, transgender identity, and sexuality.

♦ Be Hope to Her (BH2O) is an event where women and men on college campuses get together to carry buckets of water on their heads to raise money for and awareness of women and girls in the developing world who have to walk miles everyday to access clean water. Because they spend so much of their lives collecting water, they lack an education, which means they often marry earlier, have more children and are more at risk of contracting HIV/AIDS. Join the BH2O walk on Friday, April 16th from 12:00-1:00pm at Fairfield Way and help raise money for BH2O sponsor Nuru International to drill wells in Kenya. Go online to register at http://www.behoetoher.org; the $10 registration fee covers the costs of the buckets provided by Nuru and all promotional materials. For more information about this event, please contact Nina Hunter at idealists.united@gmail.com.

♦ Gubernatorial Candidate Debate. All students, faculty and staff are welcome to attend upcoming debates between the Democratic and Republican candidates for governor of Connecticut on Wednesday, April 21st from 3:30-5:30pm in the Reading Room of the William F. Starr Hall on the UConn Law School campus in Hartford. The focus of the debates will be higher education and how the education-workforce pipeline can best enhance the long-term vitality of Connecticut’s economy. The format will include three moderators who will ask questions of the candidates: two UConn students and a member of the Connecticut print news media. Buses from Storrs to the Law School are reserved for any students who don’t have their own transportation. To attend or reserve space on one of the buses, please RSVP by April 16th by email to University Events at RSVP@uconn.edu.
Upcoming Events

- **Take Back the Night**, an annual international event dedicated to raising awareness about sexual violence, will take place this Wednesday, April 21st from 7:00-10:00 pm at the Student Union Ballroom. The event will begin with a Welcome Session to introduce participants to the issue followed by a candle light rally through campus while chanting “Take Back the Night” for survivors of sexual abuse. The Speak Out after the candle light rally is designed to encourage survivors at the event to come forward in a safe and confidential space to share stories about their experience with violence. Trained counselors will be present to support any survivor or ally at any point in time during the program. For more information, please visit http://www.womenscenter.uconn.edu/.

- **Human Trafficking in CT and Abroad.** The UConn School of Social Work’s Center for International Social Work Studies, and students from the Theory and Practice of Social Movements class will be hosting a panel discussion on human trafficking on Tuesday April 20th, from 12:30-2:00 pm in Room 203, UConn School of Social Work building (Greater Hartford Campus). Panelists will discuss modern-day forms of slavery, involving coercive labor exploitation and forced prostitution, that are happening right here in Connecticut, and what is being done about it.

- **Voices of Rwanda: Screening and Conversation with Taylor Krauss.** On Tuesday, April 20th at 4:00 pm, Taylor Krauss, founding director of Voices of Rwanda, will present clips from his filmed testimony from survivors of the Rwandan genocide at the Dodd Konover Auditorium. Krauss created Voices of Rwanda in 2006 to record and preserve testimonies of Rwandans to ensure that their stories inform the world about genocide and help prevent future human rights atrocities. To find out more information on Voices of Rwanda please visit http://www.voicesofrwanda.org/.

- **Seyla Benhabib Lecture.** Join Seyla Benhabib, Eugene Meyer Professor of Political Science and Philosophy at Yale University and Director of its Program in Ethics, Politics, and Economics for her lecture entitled Cosmopolitanism after Kant: Claiming Rights Across Borders in a New Century on Friday, April 23rd at 2:00 pm in the Dodd Konover Auditorium.

Announcements

- **Internship Opportunity.** Archives & Special Collections at the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center offers semester long internships during the academic year for undergraduate students enrolled in the Human Rights Minor. Interns are eligible for academic credit for their work. Intern projects will involve materials in the Human Rights or Alternative Press Collections and may include increasing access to collections through the arrangement and description of collections using accepted archival practices and techniques. The deadline is April 23rd (THIS FRIDAY!). Please apply using the attached application form. Contact Valerie.love@uconn.edu for more information.

- **Change in office hours.** Archana Krishnan will not be available during her usual office hours this week. If you need to meet with her, please email her at archana.krishnan@uconn.edu to set up an appointment.
Upcoming Events

♦ **Post Graduate Service Alumni Panel.** If you are thinking about post graduate service and wondering if it is right for you, you will have the opportunity to speak to a group of alums who have served in Peace Corps, Teach for America, AmeriCorps, and City Year on **Tuesday, April 27th at 6:30pm** in CUE 134. You may submit your question in advance at: [http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/SB939VP](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/SB939VP). For more questions about this event, please contact Will Reddy at careersforthecommon-good@uconn.edu.

♦ **Lecture on Art and Gender Representation.** The Rainbow Center’s Out to Lunch Lecture Series continues on **Wednesday, April 28th** from 12:00-1:30pm at SU 403 with a presentation by Al Murray entitled *Making Art, Re-making Gender: When Artists Show us Possibilities.* Trans and queer artists have documented evidence of the limitations of how gender is understood in contemporary society. By looking at this evidence critically, we can see how stable notions of gender binaries crumble and how even more fluid notions gender expression are challenged.

♦ **Environmental Policy Panel Discussion.** On **Thursday, April 29th at 5:30pm in CLAS 108,** there will be a panel discussion on *Environmental Policy and Climate Change* hosted by the UNESCO Student Ambassadors for Human Rights. This will be an introductory style discussion for the audience to learn about these hotly debated subjects. A $3 donation is suggested which will go to Heifer International ([http://www.heifer.org/site/](http://www.heifer.org/site/)).

♦ **Child Guidance Center 85th Gala.** The 85th Anniversary Gala Event of the Child Guidance Center of Greater Bridgeport will be held on **Thursday, May 6th** from 6:00-8:30pm at the Inn at Longshore in Westport, CT. This event will benefit the work of the Child Guidance Center to provide mental health and substance abuse counseling treatment to children as well as supportive in-home services to families. Tickets ($100) to the 85th Gala Event can be purchased online at [www.cgcgb.org](http://www.cgcgb.org) via PayPal. Please visit [http://www.cgcgb.org](http://www.cgcgb.org) for more information.

Announcements

♦ **2010 Human Rights Summer Program.** Columbia University’s Institute for the Study of Human Rights is pleased to announce that the following courses will be offered during the 2010 Summer Program:
  - **Session I: May 24-July 2**
    - *Introduction to Human Rights*
    - *International Law and Human Rights*
  - **Session II: July 6-August 13**
    - *Corporate Social Responsibility: A Human Rights Approach*
    - *Human Rights of Women*

Courses are designed for graduate and advanced undergraduate students of all disciplines, and are taught by Columbia University and visiting faculty who are experts in human rights. Students can receive three academic credits for each class. Application deadlines are **May 13th** for Session I and **June 23rd** for Session II. For more information, please visit [http://hrhcolumbia.org/summer/index.htm](http://hrhcolumbia.org/summer/index.htm) or email [cshr@columbia.edu](mailto:cshr@columbia.edu).
Announcements

- Thank you all for a wonderful semester and for hosting, participating, and attending the numerous human rights events throughout the semester. Good luck on final exams and hope all of you have a fantastic and fun summer!

- Graduating with a Minor in Human Rights? Congratulations to all those graduating with a minor in Human Rights and best wishes in your future endeavors! The Human Rights Institute would like to invite all new Human Rights Minor alumni to join the UConn Human Rights Alumni Facebook group and share with us your post-graduation ideas, experiences, and work to champion human rights in your local communities and around the globe!

- Human Rights Through Film Course in Fall 2010! Professor Dave Richards will be offering HRTS 3298, Variable Topics: Human Rights Through Film, in the Fall 2010 semester. The class will meet on Tuesdays from 6:00-9:00 pm in Arjona 119. This course will count towards the Human Rights minor.

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