

THE
Human
Rights
Institute

**Want to see your
event posted here?**

Please send us the details
of your event to:

humanrights@uconn.edu

at least **two** weeks in
advance of the event date.

**Contact Information &
Office Hours:**

- Professor Richard Hiskes:
MWF 11:00AM - 11:50AM
and by appointment.
Office: Monteith 120
Phone: (860) 486-2536
e-mail: richard.hiskes@uconn.edu

- Janna Mahfoud:
Mondays 12:00PM-4:00PM
Tuesdays 11:00AM-4:00PM
Wednesdays 3:00PM-4:00PM
Phone: (860) 486-8739
e-mail: janna.mahfoud@gmail.com

- Shaznene Hussain:
Tuesdays 10:00AM - 1:00PM
Thursdays 10:00AM - 1:00PM
Fridays 9:00AM - 1:00PM
Phone: (860) 486-8739
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Human Rights Institute
University of Connecticut
Thomas J. Dodd Research Center
405 Babbidge Road, U-1205
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Tel: 860-486-8739
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HR News & Events

January 22, 2009

Announcements

- ♦ **Welcome back!** We hope that everyone had an enjoyable vacation and a smooth transition back into the semester. Remember, if you are in an internship placement, but have not yet signed up for internship credit, you need to schedule an appointment with Janna immediately.

- ♦ **Congratulations!** Rachel Jackson, our Program Administrator at the HRI, had her baby, Miles, on January 15th. Congratulations to Rachel and her husband Josh!

- ♦ **International Human Rights Exchange:** The Human Rights Institute helps financially to make it possible for one or two of our best minors to participate in the IHRE program in Johannesburg, South Africa for about the same price as a semester at UCONN. If you are interested please write a letter of interest and send it along with a transcript and a sample of your writing to Janna by **Feb. 15th**. Please see attached flyer and visit www.ihre.org for more details.



**Students at the IHRE program
based at the University of the
Witwatersrand, Johannesburg,
South Africa.**

- ♦ **Scholarships** for Human Rights Students & Social Justice Advocates! The Office of National Scholarships at UConn has sent out announcement detailing several scholarships opportunities for student who study Human Rights. The scholarship announcements are attached.

- ♦ **Global Youth Connect**, an international human rights organization, is accepting applications from young leaders (ages 18-30) for their Summer 2009 International Human Rights Delegations. Program locations will be Bosnia and Rwanda. Visit www.globalyouthconnect.org/ participate for more details. Applications are due Jan. 30th, 2009.

- ♦ **Namaste**, UConn's student-run Human Rights journal, is 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 us at humanrights@uconn.edu or join the Namaste Journal on Facebook.

Upcoming Events

- The Spring Study Abroad Fair will be held on Wednesday, February 4th from 4:00-7:00PM in the Rome Ballroom located in South Campus.

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HR News & Events

January 29, 2009

Announcements

- ◆ **Graduating this May?** If you are planning to graduate with a Human Rights Minor this semester, remember to fill out and submit a plan of study form within the first four weeks of the semester. To do this, contact Janna to make an appointment during her office hours, which are listed on the left of the page.
- ◆ **The One Voice Movement**, a grassroots organization made up of Israelis, Palestinians, and internationals working to empower the voice of the majority who wish to see an end to conflict, will bring two of its most active Israeli and Palestinian Youth Leaders to New England from February 28 to March 5, 2009. If you are interested in hosting an event at UConn, please contact China Sajadian at China@OneVoiceMovement.org. For more information about what OneVoice is doing on the ground, check out <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=34bVcLMrcRs&feature=channel>
- ◆ **Namaste**, UConn's student-run Human Rights journal, is 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 us at humanrights@uconn.edu or join the Namaste Journal on Facebook.
- ◆ UConn's Puerto Rican/Latin American Cultural Center (PRLACC) is pleased to announce a scholarship opportunity. The PRLACC Scholarship honors current UConn students, who have demonstrated a commitment to Latino issues through leadership and service to the community. The award is for up to \$1,000.00. Eligible applicants must be a current UConn student and have a B average. Deadline to apply is Friday, April 10, 2009. The application may be obtained at the PRLACC website at: http://www.prlacc.uconn.edu/prlacc_scholarship.htm. Selected applicant(s) will be announced at the Recognition Banquet on Thursday, April 30, 2009. For more information, please call us at (860) 486-1135.



**The HR Film Series kicks
off the semester with the
film *The 3 Rooms of Melancholia* on February 11th
at 4PM.**

Upcoming Events

- The **Spring Study Abroad Fair** will be held on **Wednesday, February 4th** from 4:00-7:00PM in the Rome Ballroom located in South Campus.
- The **Human Rights Film Series** kicks off on **February 11th at 4:00PM** showing *The 3 Rooms of Melancholia* (2005). The film reveals how the Chechen War has psychologically affected children in Russia and in Chechnya. The film will be screened at the Konover Auditorium in the Dodd Center.

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HR News & Events

February 5th, 2009

Announcements

- ◆ **Graduating this May?** If you are planning to graduate with a Human Rights Minor this semester, remember to fill out and submit a Plan of Study form within the first four weeks of the semester. To do this, please contact Janna to make an appointment during her office hours, which are listed on the left of the page.
- ◆ The **Greenpeace Organizing Term**, a semester of advanced training for student activists (www.greenpeace.org/got), is accepting applications for their Summer and Fall semesters. Through their hands-on training program you will learn about current environmental issues and solutions while being trained by experts in grassroots organizing, leadership, media, and campaign strategy. The Summer and Fall semesters are offered in both the Washington D.C. and San Francisco Greenpeace offices.
- ◆ **Namaste**, UConn's student-run Human Rights journal, is 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 us at humanrights@uconn.edu or join the Namaste Journal on Facebook.
- ◆ **Reminder:** Applications for the **International Human Rights Exchange** program in Johannesburg, South Africa are due by February 15, 2009. The program costs approximately the same as a semester at UConn and the HRI will provide funding for two HR minors to help cover the cost of the program. If you are interested, please write a letter of interest and send it along with a transcript and a writing sample to Janna. You may also find more information about the program at www.ihre.org.



Greenpeace and four kiteboarders practice off the Florida Keys in preparation for their attempt to set a Guinness Book of Records for kiteboarding distance in support of Greenpeace's campaign to conserve 40 percent of the oceans in Marine Reserves. ©

Greenpeace / Kate Davison.

Upcoming Events

- The **Human Rights Film Series** kicks off on **February 11th at 4:00PM** showing *The 3 Rooms of Melancholia* (2005). This award-winning, stunningly beautiful documentary reveals how the Chechen War has psychologically affected children in Russia and in Chechnya. Divided into three episodes or 'rooms,' the film is characterized by an elegantly paced, observational style, which uses little dialog, minimal voice-over commentary and a spare but evocative musical score. The film will be screened at **Babbidge Library's Class of 47 Room**, near the Bookworms Café.
- The **UConn Homelessness Project** is having a presentation, *Health Care for the Homeless*, on Thursday, February 12th from 6:30-7:30PM in SU 325.
- The **Internship Fair**, hosted by UConn Career Services, will take place on February 11th from 12:00-3:00PM at the Rome Ballroom in South Campus.

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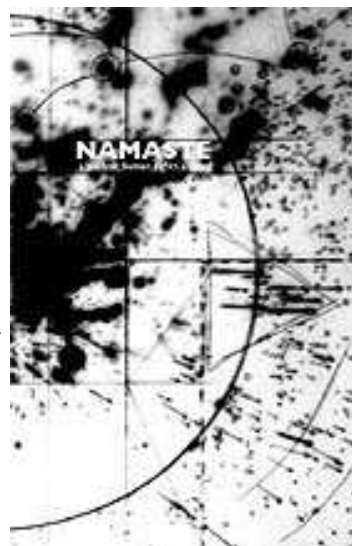
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HR News & Events

February 12th, 2009

Announcements

- ♦ **Namaste**, UConn's student-run Human Rights journal, is 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! Please send your submissions to the HRI by Friday, Feb. 27th. If you would like to learn more about the journal and/or submit your work, please come by the HRI, contact us at humanrights@uconn.edu, or join the Namaste Journal on Facebook.
- ♦ If you plan to graduate with a Human Rights Minor this semester and have not already done so, please remember to come by the HRI tomorrow and complete a Plan of Study as they are due by **Feb. 13th**.
- ♦ Thinking about applying to the International Human Rights Exchange program or the Hague internship? The HRI will accept applications for both programs until **Monday Feb. 16th**. Please contact Professor Hiskes or Janna if you have any questions about the applications.



**Want your work published?
Submit your essays, artwork,
poetry, creative fiction, or
photography to Namaste.**

Upcoming Events

- The next **Real Slow Food at UConn** meeting will take place on Thursday, Feb. 19, 2009 from 6-7:30PM at Whitney Dining Hall. The Slow Food Movement and the Real Food Challenge have united in support of sustainable food! The organization aims to improve the culture of food on campus by advocating that Dining Services purchase more local and organic foods; learning about the origin of our food; supporting local farmers; and taking time to visit and volunteer at local farms, farmers' markets, the EcoGarden, and charitable organizations. More information is available at: www.facebook.com/home.php#/group.php?gid=83280565623. You may also contact Meghan Misset at (203) 228-8586 or realslowfoodatuconn@gmail.com for further details.
- The **2009 Day of Remembrance** Public Lecture by Robert T. Hayashi, author of *Haunted by Waters: A Journey through Race and Place in the American West*, will take place on Thursday, Feb. 19, 2009 from 4:00- 6:00PM in the Student Union, Ballroom. Robert T. Hayashi is Asst. Prof. of English and American Studies at Amherst College and Winner of the 2007 National Council on Public History Book Award. Day of Remembrance is free and open to the public. Please contact Fe Delos-Santos at fe.delos-santos@uconn.edu for more information.
- The **IRA Discussion**: The International Relations Association will host a *Discussion Topic: The War in Gaza* on Tuesday, Feb. 24, 2009 from 6:30-7:30PM in the Student Union, Room 312. The event is free and open to all UConn students. Please check out www.UConnIRA.org for more information or contact Joanna Wasilowski at joanna.wasilowski@uconn.edu.

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HR News & Events

February 19th, 2009

Announcements

- ♦ Mark your calendars! **The Careers for the Common Good Fair** will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 25th from 12:00-3:00PM in the SU Ballroom. You will not only be able to explore potential **HR jobs** for after graduation, but you will also have a chance to find **HR internship opportunities** that will count towards your HR minor! We encourage all students interested in HR work to take advantage of this great opportunity. Please visit http://www.career.uconn.edu/career_fair_common_good.html for more information.
- ♦ **Namaste**, UConn's student-run Human Rights journal, is 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! Please send your submissions to the HRI by Friday, Feb. 27th. If you would like to learn more about the journal and/or submit your work, please come by the HRI, contact us at humanrights@uconn.edu, or join the Namaste Journal on Facebook.
- ♦ UConn PIRG's Hunger and Homelessness Campaign Meetings take place Wednesdays from 7:00-8:00PM in Arjona 109. ConnPIRG students volunteer in shelters, raise money for food banks, and participate in educational events on campus.



**ConnPIRG Hunger and
Homelessness food bank.**

Upcoming Events

- The Anti-Discrimination Coalition, a coalition working to make Connecticut's laws against discrimination stronger, by making it illegal to deny someone a job, housing, credit, education, or access to public places because of their gender identification/expression, will host a **Gender Identity/Expression Lobbying and Advocacy Training** on Saturday, Feb. 21st from 12:00-2:30PM in the Rainbow Center on the Storrs campus. Space is limited, so please RSVP by contacting tonialo-conte@msn.com (or for more information).
- The **IRA Discussion**: The International Relations Association will host a *Discussion Topic: The War in Gaza* on Tuesday, Feb. 24, 2009 from 6:30-7:30PM in the Student Union, Room 312. The event is free and open to all UConn students. Please check out www.UConnIRA.org for more information or contact Joanna Wasilowski at joanna.wasilowski@uconn.edu.
- There will be a **Humanitarianism Lecture** on Wednesday, Feb. 25th, 5:00-6:30PM, in CLAS 217. Eduardo Cadave, Professor of English at Princeton University, will give a lecture entitled "Of Veils and Mourning: Fazal Sheikh's Widowed Images." The lecture will explore the photography of renowned human rights artist Fazal Sheikh, who confronts topics ranging from the experience of refugees from Somalia, Afghanistan and Sudan to the hazards facing Mexican immigrants in the USA and gender discrimination in India.

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HR News & Events

February 25th, 2009

Announcements

◆ **Reminder! The Careers for the Common Good Fair** will be held **TODAY** (Wednesday, Feb. 25th) from 12:00-3:00PM in the SU Ballroom. Come explore potential **HR jobs** and **HR internship opportunities!** You may even find an internship opportunity that can count towards your HR minor! We encourage all students interested in HR work to take advantage of this great opportunity. Please visit http://www.career.uconn.edu/career_fair_common_good.html for more information.

◆ **Namaste** is continuing to accept essays, artwork, poetry, creative fiction, photography and much more for the next issue of the journal. Please send your submissions to the HRI by **Monday, March 16th** (the Monday after spring break). If you would like to learn more about the journal and/or submit your work, please come by the HRI, contact us at humanrights@uconn.edu, or join the Namaste Journal on Facebook.

◆ The **Human Rights Film Series** continues on **Wednesday, March 4th** at 4PM in the Konover Auditorium, exploring Article 3 of the UDHR with the film, *Persepolis*. A fascinating and wholly unexpected take on Iran's Islamic revolution beginning in the 1970s, *Persepolis* is an enthralling, animated feature about a spirited young woman who spends her life trying to deal with the consequences of her nation's history. Based on an autobiographical comic book by Marjane Satrapi, the story concerns Marji, whose natural fire and precociousness are slowly dampened by the rise of religious extremists. An unique window onto a crucial chapter of 20th century history, *Persepolis* is graphically engaging with its black-and-white, bold lines and feeling of repressed energy, fit to burst. The emotional content is so strong that after awhile, one almost forgets the film is a cartoon. --Tom Keogh, Amazon.com



**Careers for the Common
Good Fair TODAY!**

Upcoming Events

- The Foundations of Humanitarianism Program invites you to attend a public lecture: "**Of Veils and Mourning: Fazal Sheikh's Widowed Images**" by Eduardo Cadava, Professor of English and Comparative Literature at Princeton University, on **Wednesday, Feb. 25th** at 5PM in CLAS 217. Fazal Sheikh is a human rights artist/activist, whose works have dealt with topics ranging from the experience of refugees from Somalia, Afghanistan and Sudan to the hazards facing Mexican immigrants in the USA and gender discrimination in India. For more info, see his website at <http://www.fazalsheikh.org/>. A coffee reception will precede the talk.
- The Honors Alternative Spring Break to New Orleans, in conjunction with SUBOG, is the hosting Oscar nominated, award-winning "**Trouble the Water**" film documentary about the effects of Hurricane Katrina and the government's subsequent actions. The screening, followed by an informal discussion, will be held in the Student Union Theater at 7PM on **Tuesday, March 3**.

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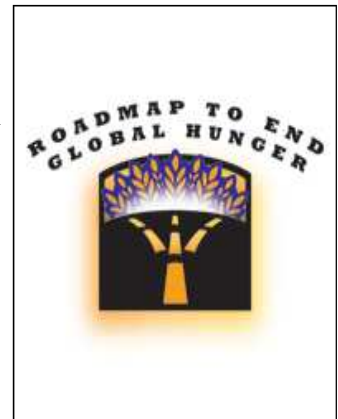
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HR News & Events

March 5th, 2009

Upcoming Events

- ♦ **Charles Duelfer**, author of *Hide and Seek: The Search for Truth in Iraq* and a CLAS alumnus, will lecture on his new book Thursday, March 5th (today!) 4:00-5:00PM in BioPhysics Bldg, Rm. 131. Book signing to follow talk. Duelfer served as the deputy chairman of the United Nations weapons inspection organization (the UN Special Commission on Iraq—UNSCOM) from 1993 to 2000. He was also the leader of the Iraq Survey Group, which was the CIA-led team charged with the search for weapons of mass destruction in Iraq.
- ♦ **The deadline for Namaste Submission is March 16th!** (That is the day we return from Spring break!) Send in your essays, artwork, poetry, creative fiction, or photography for a chance to be published in the next issue of the journal. (They can be pieces that you wrote or created for a class!) Send submission and/or questions to humanrights@uconn.edu. Don't miss out on this great opportunity!
- ♦ **Alternative Break Weekend In Bridgeport:** April 3rd- 5th, a group of UConn students will be helping to build affordable housing on a site in Bridgeport, CT in conjunction with Habitat for Humanity. The group will be given an orientation regarding the organization and the activities they will be doing. At the end of each night the group will meet to reflect on the day's activities and further discuss problems related to housing issues. To apply please contact Kerrie Canavan, Trip Director, at Kerrie.Canavan@uconn.edu!
- ♦ **Friends of the World Food Program:** Do you want to be a leader in a national campaign to end global hunger? Friends of the World Food Program (WFP) is seeking dynamic volunteers to serve as State Coordinators for the WFP Committee program. This position will provide valuable support to volunteers organizing activities advocating for UN World Food Program and its mission to end hunger worldwide. For more information, please visit 'Employment' at www.friendsofwfp.org. Interested applicants should email outreach@friendsofwfp.org or call Jessica Alatorre at (202) 530-1694. Hunger is solvable and you can make a difference.



Friends of WFP released the "Roadmap to End Global Hunger," which outlines a comprehensive U.S. government strategy to dramatically reduce global hunger.

Announcements

- **The Davis-Putter Scholarship:** This scholarship is intended for students (undergraduates and graduates) who are "active in movements for social and economic justice" and demonstrate financial need. Maximum award is \$8,000 open to any discipline. Students do not need to be U.S. citizens (but must be living & going to school in the U.S.). The 2009 application will be available in January with a DEADLINE of APRIL 1, 2009. Students may visit <http://www.davisputter.org/index.html> for an application (when it becomes available) and more information.
- Please note that Janna will have alternative office hours the week after spring break (March 16th-20th). She will be available to meet Wednesday (3/18) from 12:00-2:00, 3:00-5:00 and Thursday (3/19) from 10:00-4:00.
- **Have a wonderful Spring Break!!!**

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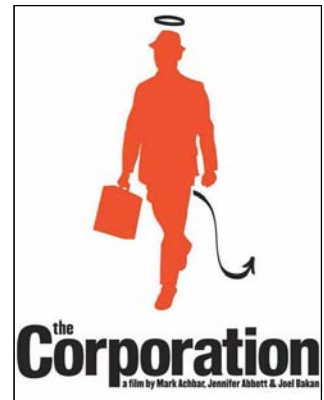
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HR News & Events

March 19th, 2009

Upcoming Events

- ♦ **Youth for Human Rights** will host a movie night tonight, Thursday, March 19th, from 7:00-9:00PM in the Rainbow Center. The film *Milk*, starring Sean Penn in an Oscar winning role, is a biopic about the life and death of Harvey Milk, the first openly gay man elected to public office in the US.
- ♦ The Starfish Children's Fund & the Asha for Education group present **Beats of Hope: A showcase of UConn's talent** on Friday, March 20th, 6:00-8:00PM, in the Student Union Theater. There is a \$5 suggested donation.
- ♦ **"Ecofeminism in a Transnational World"**: The 21st Annual Conference on Women and Gender will be this Friday and Saturday (March 20th & 21st) in the Student Union. There will be two keynote speakers: Dr. Cynthia Enloe on Friday at 5:30PM and aboriginal Mohawk midwife and environmental activist Katsi Cook on Saturday at 4:30PM, both in the Women's Center, SU 421. Sessions include "Transnational Gender Justice"; "Pornography on Campus"; "Environmental Justice"; "Ecofeminist Pedagogy"; and others. For a full schedule of events, please visit: www.womens.studies.uconn.edu/news_&_events.html.
- ♦ **Advocates for Corporate Social Responsibility** will be showing the film, *The Corporation*, on Monday, March 23rd at 7:00PM in the Student Union Theater. *The Corporation* is a 2003 Canadian documentary film critical of the modern-day corporation, evaluating its behavior towards society and the world at large as a psychologist might evaluate a person.
- ♦ **Science and Human Rights Lecture**: Philosopher of science Dr. John Beatty will deliver the 2009 Hermann Distinguished Lecture on Human Rights and the Life Sciences on Wednesday, March 25th from 4:00-5:00PM in the Konover Auditorium. The title of the lecture is "Karl Popper, Darwinism, and Totalitarianism: Evolutionary Theory and Political Ideology."
- ♦ **Global Business Leadership Seminar Series**: Dr. Susan Aaronson, Associate Research Professor of International Affairs, George Washington University, will be speaking on **"The WTO and Human Rights"** on Wednesday, March 25th at 7:00PM in the Konover Auditorium. This event is co-sponsored by the Human Rights Institute and the Center for International Business Education & Research (CIBER) of UConn School of Business.
- ♦ The Foundations of Humanitarianism Program and the Human Rights Institute will host a lecture by Gary J. Bass, professor at Princeton University, on Thursday, March 26, 2009 at 4:30PM in the basement of Wood Hall. Professor Bass is the author of *Stay the Hand of Vengeance: The Politics of War Crimes Tribunals* and will speak about his new book, ***Freedom's Battle: The Origins of Humanitarian Intervention*** (Knopf 2008).



Promotional poster for the
2003 documentary,
The Corporation.
(www.thecorporation.com)

Announcement

- Are you a Human Rights minor and plan to do an international human rights internship or other human rights related travel this summer? Contact Janna with your trip details and the HRI may be able to provide financial assistance.

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HR News & Events

March 26th, 2009

Upcoming Events

- ♦ **A Day in the Humanities: *Imagining, Performing, and Writing Science*** will be held on Friday, March 27th from 8:30am-6:30pm in the Alumni House. In contrast to the humanities, which express and shape both human experience and culture, science is often conceived as an objective, fact-finding enterprise transcending culture and its human creators. In the UConn's Humanities Institute fourth *Day in the Humanities*, scholars will challenge this 'Two Cultures' point of view by exploring various discourses through which science is created, represented, and disseminated. For a complete schedule of events, visit:

www.humanities.uconn.edu

- ♦ **Sackler Lecture in Human Rights:** On Tuesday, March 31st, at 4:00pm in the Konover Auditorium, Professor Adam Fairclough will give a talk entitled, "*The Last Best Hope of the Earth*": *American Democracy and the Right to Vote in Historical Perspective*. Adam Fairclough holds the Raymond and Beverly Sackler Chair in the History and Culture of the United States at Leiden University in the Netherlands.

- ♦ **Tuva Day 2009: Tuesday, March 13th.** To start off Tuva Day, the film, *Genghis Blues*, will be shown at 2:00pm in the Student Union Theater. Later that evening, the Alash Ensemble, masters of Tuvan throat singing, will perform in the von der Mehden Recital Hall at 8:00pm. (Doors open at 7:30pm.)

- ♦ **Out to Lunch Lecture Series:** Barry Schreier, Director of UConn's Counseling and Mental Health Services, will be speaking on "*A House of Cards*": *Advocacy for the GLBTQ Community* on Wednesday, April 1st, at 12:00pm in the Rainbow Center. This presentation will provide a framework for climbing into the minds of those that oppose GLBTQ equality by examining their belief and attitude structure to define the best methods for social advocacy work.

- ♦ **LUNAFEST: Short Films By...For...About Women** will be held on Wednesday, April 1st, at 6:00pm in the Konover Auditorium. LUNAFEST is a national film festival that features short films by, for, and about women. Films range from animation to fictional drama and over topics such as women's health, motherhood, body image, relationships, cultural diversity and breaking barriers. Tickets: \$10 for faculty & community members and \$7 for students with a valid UConn ID. All proceeds from this year's event will be donated to Violence Against Women Prevention Program (VAWPP) at UConn and the Breast Cancer Fund (BCF).



**For more information
about UConn's Second
Annual LUNAFEST, visit
lunafest.org or
womenscenter.uconn.edu**

Announcements

- **Important Internship Information:** If you are planning to enroll in HRTS 3245: Internship Credit this Summer or Fall semester, you need to make an appointment with Janna to fill out the appropriate paper work. Please email Janna to set up a meeting time during her office hours, which can be found in the column to the left.
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HR News & Events

April 2nd, 2009

Upcoming Events

- ♦ **Strategies for Peace, Global Sustainability & Conflict Transformation: Teaching Peace Across Disciplines:** This conference on Peace and Human Rights at Central Connecticut State University will be held on Friday, April 3, 2009 from 8:15am-4:00pm. Registration form and more information available on the website: <http://uhaweb.hartford.edu/peaceconf/sustainability2.htm>.
- ♦ **The Second Annual Graduate Human Rights Conference, *Human Rights: Ideals and Realities*,** will be this Saturday, April 4, 2009 from 9:00am-5:30pm in the Konover Auditorium, Dodd Center. Joshua Rubenstein, the Northeast Regional Director of Amnesty International USA and Associate at Harvard's Davis Center for Eurasian and Russian Studies, will give the Keynote Address, **"Human Rights: From the Academy to the Streets"** at 1:30pm. Panels include: Theoretical Foundations of Human Rights (9:45am), Evolution of Human Rights Law (11:15am), Social and Economic Rights in the USA (3:00pm), and Group Rights and the Arts (4:30pm).
- ♦ The **Human Rights Film Series** continues on Wednesday, April 8th at 4pm in the Konover Auditorium with the film, **"Committing Poetry in Times of War"**. The film is a poetic glance at events that defined the struggle of a nation at war abroad, and with its people. When the bombs began to fall on Iraq, Humanities Teacher and Youth Poetry Coach, Bill Nevins, was suspended and later, fired, from his teaching job after standing up for student freedom of expression. Yet, out of this fire arose a diverse community of artisans, poets, & musicians whose courageous words could not be silenced. They came together in a series of unifying events, which began in New Mexico, and grew to cross this great country...it was called, Poetic Justice. The Poetic Justice poets defied the fear-tactics of the times and, not only supported Bill Nevins in his legal battle, but also, stood as a beacon for freedom of speech. The poets, and the film itself, serve as a testament to our creative spirit and an affirmation of the power of creativity - a path toward transformation and hope during these troubling times.
- ♦ **Fall 2009 On Campus Internship Opportunity!** The Archives and Special Collections at the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center offers an internship opportunity for a human rights student each semester. The deadline for applications for the Fall 2009 semester is **Monday, April 20**. More information about the intern position is available on the Dodd Center's website at <http://doddcenter.uconn.edu/outreach/internships.htm>.



For more information about
**"Committing Poetry in a
Time of War"** visit
www.committingpoetry.com

Announcements

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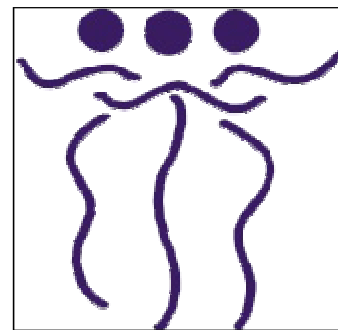
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HR News & Events

April 9, 2009

Upcoming Events

- ♦ **UNESCO Chair & Institute of Comparative Human Rights Lecture Series:** "The United Nations and Human Rights in Africa: Reflections of a UN Diplomat" On **Thursday, April 9th** at 12:30-1:45pm in Castleman Room 212. Mr. Abdulrahim Abby Farah will speak on his experiences at the United Nations and human rights issues in Africa. Mr. Farah served for twenty years as Under-Secretary-General and Senior Political Advisor on African Affairs in the UN. He also was Somalia's Ambassador to Ethiopia and Permanent Representative to the UN.
- ♦ **Humanitarianism Lecture:** On **Thursday, April 16th**, Elazar Barkan will give a lecture entitled "Redress and Human Rights" at 4:00-5:30pm in the Konover Auditorium, Dodd Research Center. Professor Barkan's lecture will consider the discourse of historical redress as a space where history, memory and contemporary politics interrogate issues of past wrongs and gross violations of human rights. His discussion will revolve around the dilemma of how history and memory inform contemporary politics, in particular around conflict and post conflict societies. Elazar Barkan is a Professor of International and Public Affairs and at Columbia University and the Director of the Institute for Historical Justice and Reconciliation at the Salzberg Seminar.
- ♦ **Study Human Rights in London: UCONN in London** offers you the chance to study, work, and live in one of the most international cities in the world for an entire semester! Through courses and in-the-field experiences, this program uses the city of London as a living laboratory to expand your understanding of globalization, world politics and your own role as a global citizen. **DEADLINE EXTENDED FOR APPLICATION: APRIL 10, 2009; FINANCIAL AID APPLIES!** Please see attached flyer for more details.



**Planning to intern with the
Women's Center at UConn?
Applications are due
April 17th!**

Announcements

- **UConn Women's Center Internship:** The Women's Center is seeking reliable, dedicated self-starters to work in a women centered environment, which strives to promote awareness and understanding of issues that affect all women and provides assistance to women in achieving their professional, educational and personal goals. Applications are due **APRIL 17th!** See attached document for more details.
- **Internship at the Dodd Center!** The Archives and Special Collections at the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center offers an internship opportunity for a human rights student each semester. The deadline for applications for the Fall 2009 semester is **Monday, April 20th**. More information about the internship is available on the Dodd Center's website at <http://doddcenter.uconn.edu/outreach/internships.htm>.
- **Important Internship Information:** If you are planning to enroll in HRTS 3245: Internship Credit this Summer or Fall semester, you need to make an appointment with Janna to fill out the appropriate paper work. Please email Janna to set up a meeting time during her office hours, which can be found in the column to the left.
- Interested in speakers and other events on campus related to the Middle East? Want to hear about courses or summer programs for study in the region? Join **MIDEAST-L** a listserv for announcements, events, and programs. To join, send a submission request to Mideast-L@listserv.uconn.edu.

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HR News & Events

April 16th, 2009

Upcoming Events

- ♦ **HUMAN RIGHTS AWARENESS WEEK!** Kicks off on **Saturday, April 18th** from **noon to midnight** on **Dow Field** with the HR Music Festival featuring student artists and headliner Dead Prez. Activities continue throughout the week with Monday focusing on Economic Rights, Tuesday– Equality, Wednesdays– Women's Rights, and Thursday– Education and Healthcare. See attached flyer for more details. (HR Awareness week is organized by Idealist United and funded by the USG.)

- ♦ **Yom Hashoah – Holocaust Remembrance Day:** The Alpha Epsilon Pi Fraternity is hosting an event for Yom Hashoah on **April 20th**. The event is split into two sections: First, there will be a *Silent Walk* around campus at 3:00PM. Meet at the top of Fairfield Way (in between the Student Union and School of Business) wearing black. The second part of the event is from 4:00-6:00PM in the Konover Auditorium in the Dodd Center. There will be two speakers: a liberator of a concentration camp and a holocaust survivor. For more information or questions, please contact alex.prager@uconn.edu.

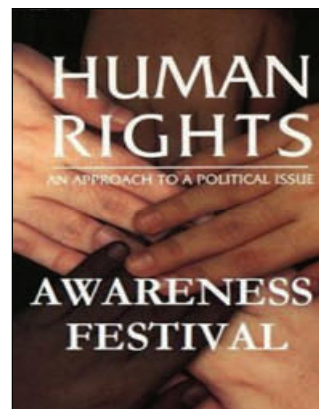
- ♦ **HR Awareness Week – Equality Day Talk:** On **April 21st** at **1:00PM** in the Konover Auditorium (Dodd Center). Robert Hillary King will speak about inequities in the justice system and freeing wrongfully convicted prisoners. In the 1970s, Robert King was convicted of a murder he did not commit and while in jail he joined the Black Panther party to organize for better living conditions and the desegregation of prisons.

- ♦ **Paul Loeb to Speak on Citizen Activism and Hope:** How can you make your voice heard and your actions count? On **April 21st** at **7:00PM** in the **Student Union Theater**, Paul Rogat Loeb will explore how to act on our deepest beliefs—and make a difference despite all the obstacles. Paul Loeb is the author of the bestsellers *Soul of a Citizen: Living With Conviction in a Cynical Time* and *The Impossible Will Take a Little While: A Citizen's Guide to Hope in a Time of Fear*. His work describes what gets people, especially students, involved in work for change, what stops us from becoming involved, the benefits of community involvement, and how we can avoid burning out in exhaustion.

- ♦ **Earth Day Spring Fling:** On Wednesday, **April 22nd**, come celebrate Earth Day with sustainable groups on campus, including Whitney Local Routes, EcoHusky, EcoGarden and others! Local foods, vendors and entertainment will be outside on Fairfield Way from **11:00AM - 2:00PM**.

- ♦ **"Iraqi Refugees: The New Crisis in the Middle East"**: Dr. Joseph Sassoon, visiting professor at Georgetown University, Institute for the Study of International Migration and Senior Associate Member, St. Antony's College, Oxford, will give a talk on Iraqi Refugees on **Wednesday, April 22nd** from **3:00-4:30PM**. The lecture will be held in the Dodd Center, Room 162. Please send notice of your intent to attend to Dr. Libal at kathryn.libal@uconn.edu. Attached is a flyer for the event.

- ♦ **Former Bush Official to Speak:** Col. Lawrence Wilkerson (ret.), former Chief of Staff to Secretary of State Colin Powell, will give a public talk on **April 22nd** at **4:00PM** in the Konover Auditorium, he will give a sure-to-be fascinating analysis of the national security challenges facing the new Obama team, and recount his experiences in the George W. Bush administration. After leaving the administration, Col. Wilkerson became one of its fiercest critics of matters such as the use of WMD intelligence, the strategic costs of the Iraq war, the dominance of decision making by a 'Cheney-Rumsfeld cabal', and the treatment of detainees at Guantanamo Bay and Abu Ghraib.



**Human Rights Awareness
Week begins this Saturday!
(See attached flyer for the
week's events.)**

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HR News & Events

April 23rd, 2009

Upcoming Events

- ♦ **World Renowned Journalist Roger Cohen to speak on globalization:** The USG is hosting International Writer-at-Large Roger Cohen of the New York Times on **Tuesday, April 28th, 2009 at 6:30pm** in the **Student Union Theatre**. Roger Cohen is a world-renown journalist for both the New York Times and the International Herald Tribune and an expert in the fields of international relations and international politics. His former positions include Deputy Foreign Editor and Acting Foreign Editor for the New York Times and Foreign correspondent for the Wall Street Journal. Join Mr. Cohen for a presentation on current political issues.
- ♦ **The Rainbow Center's Out to Lunch Lecture Series** ends its semester run on **Wednesday, April 29th**, from **12:00-1:30pm** in the **Rainbow Center** with the presentation of "Gay Parenthood & the Revolution of the Modern Family: An Examination of the Unique Barriers Confronting Gay Adoptive Parents," presented by Nicholas Arntsen. Feel free to bring your lunch.
- ♦ **Study Union Research at Cornell University this summer!:** The AFL-CIO and Cornell University are sponsoring a Strategic Corporate Research Summer School on **June 7th-12th, 2009** in Ithaca, New York. The course (credit or non-credit) is designed for undergrad and grad students who are interested in working as union researchers and campaigners. **The application deadline is May 1st.** Credit scholarships are available. To obtain an application form and other info, go to <http://www.sce.cornell.edu/ss/courses/on/special/scr.php>.



For more info about the "**Gay Parenthood & the Revolution of the Modern Family**" Lecture visit <http://web2.uconn.edu/wdlcalendar/index.php/occurrence/24182>

Announcements

- ♦ **Spring Weekend Can & Bottle Recycling:** The Department of Dining Services will be joining forces during Spring Weekend this year from Thursday, April 23rd through Sunday, April 26th with the UConn Eco Husky student group and members of the Resident Housing Association by collecting bottles and cans across campus. Recycling drop-off sites will be located at the entrance of Dining Service's locations. Proceeds will be donated to the Students First Fund.
- ♦ **UConn Give and Go:** During the week of Finals and move out- choose to donate your used items instead of throwing them away! Volunteers will help organize and sort donations, as well as motivate students to be more environmentally minded and recycle things they're not taking home for the summer. Shifts are 2 hours in length and each site will be open from 11:00am-5:00pm daily. Please visit http://www.studentactivities.uconn.edu/co_csd_individual.php to sign up.
- ♦ **Archives and Special Collections needs your help!** Did you know that UConn holds one of the largest collections of activist and underground publications in the country? Our Alternative Press Collection contains thousands of activist and counterculture materials and grew directly out of student activism in the 1960s and 1970s, when UConn students began collecting flyers and publications distributed at rallies and protests on campus and across the United States and donated them to the library. So when you go to rallies, events, and conferences today, and come across free flyers, pamphlets, buttons, etc., please think about picking up an extra one for the archives!

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HR News & Events

May 1st, 2009

Announcements

- ♦ **Copies of NAMASTE 2009 now available!** Stop by the Human Rights Institute to pick up your copy! A big thank you to the Namaste Staff and to everyone who submitted pieces! **Also, we are in the process of looking for Junior and Senior HR Minors who would like to serve on the editorial board next year.** Editors will begin work in November and will earn HR internship credit for the Spring semester. If you are interested in serving on the Namaste Staff next year, please contact Janna at janna.mahfoud@gmail.com for more information.
- ♦ **MAY TERM 2009 COURSE — POLS/HRTS 1007: Introduction to Human Rights** (M/T/W/TH/F 1-4PM with PROFESSOR PAREKH) This course is an introduction to a number of human rights issues and controversies: genocide, torture, women's rights, children's rights, social and economic rights, refugees, human rights in the USA, among others. These topics will be examined through readings, film, and class discussion. This course will open with an introduction to some fundamental concepts in human rights law and the United Nations. By the end of the course students will have refined their understanding of these important contemporary issues and developed their own views. This course is ideal for anyone who is considering taking other human rights courses or adopting the human rights minor; anyone interested in human rights law; or anyone hoping to work at the United Nations or other human rights organizations. It is a Gen-Ed course with no pre-requisites, and fulfills requirements in contents areas 2 & 4-Int.
- ♦ **UConn Give and Go:** During the week of Finals and move out- choose to donate your used items instead of throwing them away! The Office of Environmental Policy, Residential Life, Community Outreach, The Town of Mansfield, Green Grads, EcoHusky, and U-Haul will be helping collect used items that will be then donated to area non-profits. Volunteers will help organize and sort donations, as well as motivate students to be more environmentally minded and recycle things they're not taking home for the summer. Shifts are 2 hours in length and each site will be open from 11:00AM-5:00PM daily. Please visit http://www.studentactivities.uconn.edu/co_csd_individual.php for further details and to sign up.
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**Donate your used items
instead of throwing them
away this semester!!**

♦ **Have a wonderful summer!!!**