



University of Connecticut
Early College Experience

ECE News To Know

CATCH-UP CORNER

The days are getting shorter, the nights cooler, and the 2009 fall semester is already in full swing. This edition of *ECE News to Know* is being sent as an "e-newsletter" to make way for a new publication that will be sent to all of our ECE community members by mid-October. The publication titled "The Program, The Partnerships, The Possibilities" will showcase the program in a variety of ways. We hope that all of our principals, site representatives and instructors will take a moment to read through the pages when they arrive and take pride in the fact that you directly contribute to UConn ECE's success. Our goal is to bring your efforts to the attention of state and University leaders so we may continue to expand on the excellent work we do each year. Thank you for giving us this opportunity.

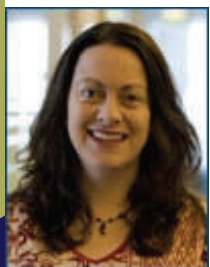
A NEWSLETTER FOR THE
UConn ECE COMMUNITY

E-NEWSLETTER
SEPTEMBER 2009

David Conley and Andrea Venezia Headline 2010 Transition to College Conference

Dr. David Conley, Professor of Educational Policy and Leadership in the College of Education at the University of Oregon, is scheduled to keynote the Transition to College Conference on Wednesday, June 2, 2010 at UConn, Storrs Campus.

In order to continue to provide nationally recognized experts as conference speakers and keep the event free of charge for UConn ECE instructors, site representatives and principals, the conference, moved to a bi-annual schedule in



Dr. Andrea Venezia

2008.

Conley is the author of *College Knowledge: What It Takes for Students to Succeed and What We Can Do to get them Ready*. He spent 20 years as a school administrator and teacher before working in higher education.

Conley will be joined by Dr. Andrea Venezia, college readiness expert, and author of *From High School to College and Minding the Gap: Why Integrating High School with College Makes Sense and How to Do It*.

The 2010 conference will focus on the changing models of post-secondary education and how they are transforming the transition to college.



Dr. David Conley

ECE instructors and high school administrators are encouraged to attend this important forum.

Educators from secondary and post-secondary institutions can continue the dialogue on creating a system where students have access to and are ready for higher education.

Watch for an email announcement indicating the conference website and registration information!

High Schools Help Make ECE Student Registration a Well-Oiled Machine

It might have been the 97 ECE site representatives who attended the 2009 Site Representative Conference in February. Or, it could have been the over 130 new instructors who attended the 2009 New Instructor Orientation in June. Perhaps it was a combination of both that led to an astounding summer registration period, during which 6,586 student registration forms were processed by August 1st. UConn ECE staff asked partner high schools during both conferences to assist with student registration by keeping strict deadlines, alphabetizing

student registration forms and submitting a typed list of student names. These small tasks had a large effect on the efficiency of the ECE program office, resulting in student invoices being sent one week ahead of schedule.

The 2009-10 academic year also marked UConn ECE's ability to provide instructors with their class rosters online. UConn ECE site representatives and new instructors were trained how to access class rosters using the University's Student Administration System. Site representatives

now have access to all class rosters for their high schools.

And let's face it; nothing makes us more efficient than a little bribery! UConn ECE put its money where its mouth is and created the first registration lottery, giving partner high schools the opportunity to win a \$1000 mini-grant to be used towards ECE class materials. To be eligible for the lottery, high schools needed to send in all alphabetized student registration forms by May 1st, and include a typed list of student names.

Twenty-eight schools sent in their student registration forms by May 1st and 13 were eligible for the lottery. The concept was such a success that UConn ECE decided to award two winners with \$1000 mini-grants. David Shaffer, ECE Math instructor at New Milford High School, was able to use his winnings to purchase two TI-83 Plus Graphics Calculators and two TI84 Viewscreens for his class. Joanne Curley, ECE Spanish instructor at Plainville High School, was the second lottery winner. **Congratulations David and Joanne!**

UConn ECE Class Acts: Horticulture at Killingly Plants its Roots

Beth Royer of Killingly High School knows what her students want – innovative, hands-on teaching with direct application to the real world. Her students get all this and more in her two Horticulture courses, Fundamentals of Horticulture and Floral Art. Not only does



ECE Instructor Beth Royer of Killingly helps her students prepare for Valentine's Day with roses they grew in her greenhouse.

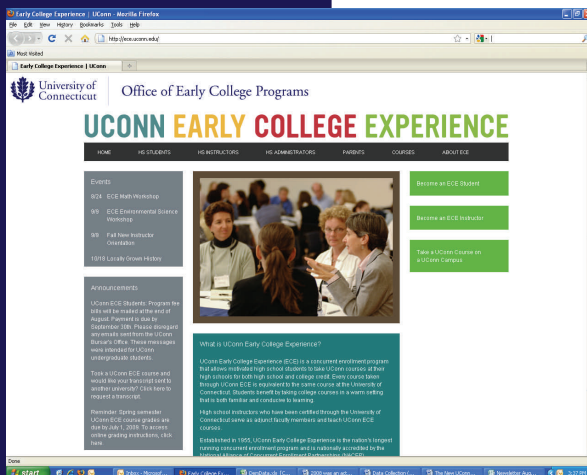
Beth integrate horticulture professionals, including organic farmers as guest speakers into her course, but she also utilizes her greenhouse as a laboratory as her students cultivate different plants.

Beth has been teaching for four years, however, 2009 was Beth's inauguration to ECE. Her courses have already attracted attention at Killingly High School, where the faculty are committed to preparing students for college and the world beyond. "We have a very high success rate," Beth said, "This is a great opportunity for them. It's that experience of getting them used to the college curriculum while they're with someone they trust. That's really key to this." Offering the UConn courses also has a sentimental value for Beth. While an undergraduate student at UConn, she enrolled in

Horticulture's Floral Design course. "I love Floral Design!" she exclaimed enthusiastically. In fact, the class had such a profound effect on her that, when applying for Floral Art certification through ECE, she used her undergraduate syllabus as a template for designing her own course.

Though only in its first year, Killingly's ECE Horticulture program appears destined to grow. Beth created an exciting plan, including field trips to working farms and meeting with representatives of NOFA, the Northeast Organic Farming Association. She has also decided to include several lab sessions, as prior Killingly students loved preparing their own Christmas wreaths and growing roses for Valentine's Day.

The New ECE Website: It's A-LIVE!



A completely redesigned ECE website launched this June to better serve the ECE community.

New features include an events and announcements area conveniently located on the home page, along with a parents' and school administrators' section that focuses on information relevant to each group.

All student registration and instructor certification materials can be downloaded directly from the website. Informational brochures and student guides are also available online. "We have so much important information that we want to share with our community," said Jennifer Griffin, Marketing and Communications Manager. "We don't want our

schools to ever feel as though they didn't have the right tools to make the program a success. We hope the new ECE website is another tool that the community can rely on."

The website also features ECE's first Technology Quick Start Guide for ECE instructors. The Technology Guide walks instructors through navigating UConn's technology resources and includes helpful tools such as how to change SAS and Net ID passwords, print class rosters, and utilize the University's library databases.

We are interested in what you have to say! To provide feedback on the new ECE website, email Jennifer Griffin at jennifer.griffin@uconn.edu.

UConn ECE Calendar of Events 2009—2010

In an effort to keep UConn ECE instructors well informed of upcoming events, we have provided a list of scheduled professional development opportunities and important events. All events will take place on the UConn Storrs campus unless otherwise noted.

Formal invitations will be sent to instructors approximately two months before the event date. The UConn ECE Program Office staff looks forward to welcoming you to campus!

For more information on UConn ECE events, please contact Jennifer Griffin at 860-486-0702 or jennifer.griffin@uconn.edu.

**PLEASE NOTE:
THERE ARE NUMEROUS WORKSHOPS THAT ARE STILL BEING FINALIZED. IF A WORKSHOP IS NOT LISTED, IT DOES NOT MEAN IT WILL NOT BE TAKING PLACE.**

August 24, 2009

Math Workshop

September 1—15, 2009

Student Add/Drop Period

September 9, 2009

Environmental Science Workshop

Fall New Instructor Orientation

October 5, 2009

American Studies Workshop
CUE Building, Room 331E

October 18, 2009

U.S. History Workshop
Locally Grown History Forum
UConn Torrington
Campus

October 20, 2009

Political Science Workshop
Annual International Comparative Human Rights Conference

October 25, 2009

Classics Workshop
ClassConn

October 29, 2009

Italian Workshop
9:30-4:30, Arjona Building,
Room 221

November 6, 2009

English & European
History Interdisciplinary
Workshop
9-2:30, Rome Ballroom

November 12, 2009

French Quiz Bowl/ High School Day
9:15-2, Dodd Center, Konover Auditorium

November 18, 2009

HDFS Workshop

February 25, 2010

Site Representative Conference

March 26, 2010

Physics Workshop

April 1, 2010

Globalization Conference for
UConn ECE Students
UConn, Stamford Campus

May 6, 2010

ECE Awards & Celebratory Reception
The Pavilion at the Nathan Hale Inn, UConn Storrs campus

May 14, 2010

Chemistry Workshop

May 17, 2010

Math Workshop (a.m.)
Statistics Workshop (p.m.)

May 19-20, 2010

HDFS New Instructor Orientation

June 2, 2010

Transition to College Conference
9-3, Student Union Ballroom

June 11, 2010

New Instructor Orientation
9-2, Rome Ballroom