



University of Connecticut
Early College Experience

ECE News To Know

CATCH-UP CORNER

It feels like just yesterday we were enjoying the summer sun and Dairy Bar ice cream! Now, another fall has passed and with it a new crop of ECE students were successfully registered for classes for the 2010-2011 academic year. Everyone worked very hard to make this happen and we were excited to see an increase in student enrollment. We strive to continue to provide opportunities for high school students to enroll in UConn classes and could not have done it without your help. A BIG thank you to everyone and we wish you all a very joyous holiday season and best wishes for the New Year!



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A NEWSLETTER FOR THE
UCONN ECE COMMUNITY

HIGHLIGHTS
WINTER 2010

National Conference 2011 to be Hosted by UConn ECE

UConn ECE staff members have already been working to plan for NACEP 2011, which will be held in Mystic, Connecticut, and hosted by UConn. Jennifer Griffin, UConn ECE Marketing and Communications Manager, first presented a bid packet to the NACEP Board in October, 2009. The Board held its annual spring meeting in Mystic in April, 2010, at the Mystic Hilton, which will be the site of the October 2011, Conference. The Hilton and surrounding Mystic Village will provide a charming small town venue for NACEP, in contrast to past conferences, which have been held in big city locations.

NACEP 2011 will be the first conference held in the Northeast for almost ten years. NACEP was a fledgling organization at the time; conference

attendance was approximately 65 attendees, compared to NACEP 2010 in Minneapolis, which attracted over 350 people, including nationally known researchers and representatives from other early college consortiums and education organizations, both public and private.

Most NACEP conferences attract a sizable local population, so we are expecting to see a large number of Connecticut, New York, Rhode Island, and Massachusetts attendees. The dates are October 23-25, 2011. Please watch the website (www.nacep.org) for details as they become available or contact the ECE office; we are hoping that many of our high school partners will attend. The Call for Proposals (probably in February or March) may attract some of our partners as well;

we would be proud to have our high school instructors and administrators involved in doing presentations.

At NACEP 2010, UConn ECE was well represented, with Brian Boecherer, Louise Larson, and Brenda Kelleher all doing research-based or technology-based presentations. Jill Thorne will be continuing as NACEP Research Committee Chair for another year, and had the opportunity to host a presentation on concurrent enrollment research.

This year's conference truly saw NACEP come of age as a national accreditation and professional development organization. It was an exciting and inspiring event. We look forward to next year's conference and hope you will too!

Trumbull and Killingly Pilot Biotechnology for UConn ECE

During the Revolutionary War Connecticut was known as the *Provision State* due to our rich folds of agriculture and livestock that kept the war effort alive. Although Connecticut is just the third smallest state and no longer seen as an agricultural powerhouse compared to the Midwest, Connecticut boasts exactly twenty high schools that specialize in agriscience and aquascience. Two years ago

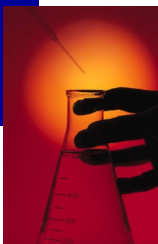
UConn ECE started offering *Fundamentals of Horticulture* at the high schools and already fourteen high schools offer the course to their students for UConn credit. This year marks the start of *Biotechnology – Science, Application, Impact, and Perception*, which is being piloted exclusively at two partner high schools: Trumbull High School and Killingly High School.

While Killingly High School will be starting their biotechnology course in the spring semester, Dr. Thomas Vrabel at the Trumbull Regional Agriscience and Biotechnology Center at Trumbull High School is currently teaching the course that began this past September. With fourteen students in the course, Vrabel says this course is really challenging his students and making them aware of the world around them. Bio-

Trumbull and Killingly Piloting Bio-Tech Course

technology is a science course with a lab component, but it also includes elements of how biotechnologies are perceived by the public as well as the legal and political aspects of this emerging technology. When you have an emerging technology it is important to see all of its aspects. Over the last fifteen years there have been big changes in the technology as well as how the public understands GMOs [genetically modified organisms]" says Vrabel. As a scientist with years of practical work

"When you have an emerging technology it is important to see all of its aspects."
Said Vrabel



with years of practical work in the lab and the field, Vrabel is able to give his students important anecdotes that allow them to understand the impact of what they are learning. Vrabel is very pleased with the rigor of the course and is proud that he is also getting his students to understand the university skills needed to transition from high school to college.

Bethany Royer at Killingly High School is also very excited to be offering the course this January. Killingly High School has a brand new building and has specialty lab space for their agricultural programs and their UConn Biotechnology course. With their "state of the art equipment" Royer says she is really, "... looking forward to getting them [her UConn students] into tissue culture and plant propagation" which is part of her

academic expertise. "It's an important part of the horticulture industry."

Biotechnology exposes students to an important academic discipline and professional field. If Royer and Vrabel are any indication, this course will soon be very popular with the students at the other agriscience high schools. The Provision State continues as our UConn ECE Faculty, in all disciplines, provide high quality University courses with passion and excitement.

Room to Grow: A New Face and New Space in the ECE Office

The UConn Early College Experience program would like to introduce our newest staff member, Ms. Stefanie Rabin. Stefanie joins the office as a Program Assistant II to focus on event planning and instructor certification. She previously worked in Massachusetts for Liaison International, an educational support and services company.



ECE Office member
Stefanie Rabin

ECE and she is very excited to be joining the ECE family.

With the addition of new staff comes the need for new space! As any visitor to the UConn Early College Experience's main office knows, space is at a premium. With growing student and instructor populations, ECE has expanded staff over the past few years while keeping the same office space. Recently, however, the University recognized the growth and strength of ECE and granted the office additional space in the Center for Undergraduate Education.

Affectionately called 'Room 214', this new area doubles the size of ECE's office. When completed, it will house staff and student workers, and a conference room. The Main Office will stay in CUE 330, but this addition helps ensure that the staff of ECE will be able to grow along with our constituents and continue to provide high levels of service. We are very lucky to have the opportunity to make this new space our second home!

Updated Staff List

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Planning your Campus Visit to the University

The ECE office welcomes any ECE class to come to the UConn campus for a visit. Your visit may include (but is not limited to) attending a UConn class session, going on a campus and/or library tour and eating lunch in a campus dining hall. The UConn ECE office does not create a campus



visit agenda for each individual class, but we can provide some help during your planning process. As campus visits require a high level of preparation on the part of the University, it is extremely important to notify the ECE office of your visit by submitting the “Campus Visit Form.” The form is located on the ECE website and is to be completed and submitted to the ECE office no later than sixty days prior to the requested date of visit. The form contains important information about how to plan your visit, including key points of contact and additional instructions. For more help with planning your campus visit, please contact Stefanie Rabin by phone or e-mail. This is a great opportunity for you and your students to see the Storrs campus. We look forward to working with you to plan a successful and educational campus visit!

2010-2011 Student Registration Wrap-Up

- ◆ This year, ECE has **149 partner high schools** with **843 UConn ECE Faculty members**.
- ◆ Student enrollment increased by over **1,000 students** from the 2009-2010 registration period.
- ◆ ECE registered **8,656 students** for **15,698 ECE classes** totaling **54,138 credits!**

Social Security Numbers No Longer Required for CEU’s

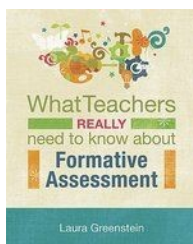
The State of Connecticut is no longer requiring that Social Security Numbers be used when applying for Continuing Education Credits. This is great news for UConn ECE and for all of our instructors. Our practice has been for instructors attending professional development workshops to fill out their CEU forms at the close of the workshop and leave the forms with ECE staff. While we make every effort to keep these forms secure, we are probably all relieved that this is no longer required. In place of the SSN, however, EINs will be required

when applying for CEUs. We have changed our form to reflect this. However, we all realize, including the State, that not all instructors will immediately know or remember their EINs. There will be a significant grace period during which neither SSNs nor EINs are required. We will let everyone know when that grace period has closed. Meanwhile, use your EIN if you know it; if not, you may leave it blank.

Enjoy the holiday season and warm wishes for the New Year!

ECE HDFS Instructor Publishes Text on Assessment

Big news from one of our ECE Human Development & Family Studies instructors! Laura Greenstein from Montville High School recently had her work published by the Association for Supervision & Curriculum Development (ACSD). The text, “What Teachers Really Need to Know



About Formative Assessment” gives a systemic view of formative assessment that ranges from teachers day-to-day practice to policies and professional development.

A UConn graduate, Laura has been an educator for 35 years including teaching experiences ranging from pre-K to 12th grade. In addition,

she is currently teaching UConn's Human Development course through UConn ECE at Montville High School and is also an adjunct professor at the University of New Haven. At the University of New Haven she teaches human development, assessment, and shortly she will soon be teaching a new course on 21st century schools. Many congratulations to Laura on her recent publication.





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Early College Experience

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UConn ECE Calendar of Events

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

February 2, 2011

Horticulture Workshop
New England Grows
Conference : Boston, MA

March 17, 2011

Italian Workshop

March 23, 2011

Spanish Workshop

March 25, 2011

Physics Workshop

March 31, 2011

*Deadline for New Instructor
Certification Applications*

April 1, 2011

English Workshop

April 7, 2011

Biology Workshop

April 8, 2011

Medieval Workshop

May 5, 2011

ECE Awards Reception

May 13, 2011

Chemistry Workshop

May 18, 2011

French Workshop

May 23, 2011

Statistics Workshop

May 31, 2011

*Early Student Registration
Deadline*

Art Workshop

June 1, 2011

New Instructor Orientation

June 30, 2011

*Student Registration Dead-
line*