

The HEALTH EDUCATION



Written by: Volume: V
Hannah Hester Issue: III

Alumni Livewire

BACCHUS

The BACCHUS Area 10 Regional Conference was held on April 13. Nine Sexperts attended the conference along with Joleen Nevers (Hannah Hester, Cody White, Emily LoTurco, Cristina Pollari, Amy Maladore, Brenda Keo, Jacqui Perron, Kayla Allen, and Raghdada Barmo).

The day started off with a light breakfast followed by Robert Rivest as the keynote speaker. Robert Rivest is a mime and laughter yoga instructor. He had everyone in the room get up and participate in various laughter activities.

The Sexperts presented three different sexuality programs throughout the day. Brenda, Jacqui, and Raghdada started off the morning with "QuickDraw".

Hannah, Kayla, and Amy presented "Rubberwear" during the last time slot of the day. Emily, Cody, Cristina, and Joleen presented "Quest for the Best: Updates and Experiments in Sexual Health." This program was about different experiments that have been conducted in the office and new research in sexuality and safer sex. Some of the research/experiments showed that lubrication packets do not dry out even if left open for an extended period of time, and Trojan Studies found that sex with a condom is just as pleasurable as sex without a condom. All of the presenters did a great job, and the programs were a huge success.

During lunch time, all of the peer educators were assigned to a

table. Seating arrangements allowed everyone to interact with people from other schools and programs. People discussed successes and obstacles within their groups, and suggestions on how they could connect with a larger population. This was a great experience for everyone involved.

There was also a raffle during lunch where schools in attendance brought different items such as t-shirts and water bottles from their schools. Finally, at lunch Cody, the Student Advisory Committee (SAC) member for Area 10 and a Sexpert, gave a wonderful speech.

Overall, everyone enjoyed BACCHUS and had a great day!

Social Media and Rewards Campaign

The launch of the Office's Social Media and Rewards Campaign has been a great success this semester!

We currently have over 500 Safer Sex Squad (S3) members, and 200 of those members have come back to the Office at least once. As for the Office's social media followers, there are over 250 likes on Facebook and over 40 followers on Twitter.

Unfortunately, Foursquare wasn't as popular as we hoped, so we are looking into a new app specifically for people to check into the Office. The hope is that people will be more interested in using this app because their check-ins won't be made public. There will also be a way for people who do not have smartphones to text in to participate. Office visitors were

asked how they felt about this idea, and they seemed very excited about it.

Members have also started to receive some of the rewards and incentives from the program. Currently, over 55 rewards have been given out. These incentives include buttons, ring pops, glow in the dark condoms, and lubrication.

We are also trying to implement new strategies to get people to interact with the office and become members. One strategy is asking questions on Facebook for anyone to respond to, not just members. If people answer they can receive gift cards or be entered to win different prizes such as a massage depending on the question. Some examples of questions include: "why is it important to get tested" and "what is a healthy way to

manage stress during the semester".

Another strategy we are testing is offering massages done by a professional during finals week. The massages were advertised on Facebook, Twitter, and in the Daily Digest.

We are hoping to implement more of these methods next year when we fully launch the program. Another goal is to give out more frequent rewards and incentives to Safer Sex Squad members.

We hope for the continued success of the program in semesters to come, and thank everyone in the office who put in hard work to get this program started!

  UConn Health Education Office

 @capt_condom



**** Update us!! We would love to know what you are doing so we can put you on our Alumni Page and in our next newsletter. Email us with updates at healthedu@uconn.edu!!**

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Health Education Graduates 2013

CONGRATULATIONS to all our graduates!! We wish you success and health in all your future endeavors.

- ☺ **Hannah Hester**
- ☺ **Emily LoTurco**
- ☺ **Cristina Pollari**
- ☺ **Amy Maladore**
- ☺ **Jacqui Perron**
- ☺ **Kayla Allen**
- ☺ **Jasmine McDowell**
- ☺ **Tara Lutz**
- ☺ **Paola Chanes-Mora**

Hannah Hester will be attending the University of Pennsylvania's School of Social Policy and Practice for her Masters in Social Work. She will be focusing on work with veterans and their families.

Emily LoTurco will be attending the University of Pennsylvania's Accelerated Bachelors in Nursing and Master's in Nurse Midwifery Program starting in June. She is very excited to move to Philadelphia and start the process of becoming a Nurse Midwife.

Congratulations! Felicidades! Felicitations! Badhai Cha! Chúc Mung! Gratulacje! Gratulasjonen! Congratulazione! Glückwunsch!

The Health Education Office has set up a Foundation account to assist with enhancing the services it offers. A goal of our office is to put students first by offering the most comprehensive wellness services possible. If you are willing to donate to the fund, please follow these instructions:

- 1) Visit www.foundation.uconn.edu
- 2) Click on "give now" located in the upper right hand corner
- 3) Under "Gift Designations" check the box "I would like to give to a fund not shown on the list."

**** Update us!! We would love to know what you are doing so we can put you on our Alumni Page and in our next newsletter. Email us with updates at healthed@uconn.edu!!**

Jacqui Perron will be moving to Manchester and continuing to work with Holy Family Home and Shelter. She will also be working at a swimming pond as the Waterfront Director.

Cristina Pollari will be attending CUNY School of Public Health at Hunter College for her Masters in Public Health with a focus in epidemiology.

Amy Maladore will be applying to Women's Studies graduate programs over the summer. She is also looking for a Certified Nursing Assistant position.

Kayla Allen will be doing an Accelerated Nursing Program at Quinnipiac University.

Jasmine McDowell will be an oncology nurse at the UCONN Health Center.

Tara Lutz will be attending UCONN's Public Health PhD program.

Paola Chanes-Mora will be attending UCONN's Public Health PhD program.

- 4) Enter "Health Education Enhancement Fund Number 22529" in the "Account" box

Please contact Joleen Nevers, the Health Education Coordinator, with any questions about the Enhancement Fund at 860-486-0772 or joleen.nevers@uconn.edu. For more information about the UCONN Foundation and its privacy policy: <http://www.foundation.uconn.edu/faq.html>

