



Pre-Collegiate and Access Programs Newsletter

November 1, 2016

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ConnCAS/EA²P News

from Carmen Goldman, ConnCAS/EA²P Student Support Liaison

The Academic 2016/2017 academic year started off with a great start. Our students came in enthusiastic and ready to tackle the new semester. We started with an open house on August 30th. The students were introduced to our new Pre-Collegiate & Access Student Success Center, Student Lounge and Administrative Offices. The residential students had moved back in and were busy catching up with the other ConnCAS/EA²P students.

Our first day of classes for our students was seamless. Since the students had attended the five week summer program, they were familiar with the campus and support services at WCSU. Tutoring began the week of September 11. We had tutors in most of the major disciplines. And many of the summer tutors continued throughout the semester. This was crucial for continuity for the students. With the students already utilizing tutoring, tutoring became second nature to our cohort. Tutoring is conducted in our Student Success Center. With ten computers including a printer, the Student Success Center has provided a truly conducive learning environment. The center's expanded weekly hours including Sunday nights have proved beneficial.

After doing some studying, the students have enjoyed our student lounge. The warm decor lends itself to calm introspection and rest. The students also have taken advantage of our snacks and board games.

The ConnCAS/EA²P 2016 cohort joined the 2015 cohort in taking ownership of the rocks! Our second annual "Paint the Rock" was a success with students painting the rocks for their respective ConnCAS/EA²P year. The music and glow sticks took over the warm, dry October night. Over 40+ students attended while the music played in the background. Earlier in the semester, our students participated in the WCSU Day of Service. The students were sent to the Harambee Center of Danbury to clean the gym. The hard work paid off as the students took pride in their community service project. Some of our ConnCAS/EA²P students also participated in the Neumann Center's 25th Anniversary.

The daily and weekly interaction with the students has been instrumental in keeping the students on task. The ConnCAS/EA²P office has worked extensively with the other resources at WCSU in ensuring the ConnCAS/EA²P student's success.

From the Director Robert A. Pote



On behalf of the WCSU Pre-Collegiate & Access Programs, I would like to welcome you to our academic division. I am delighted that you have made the decision to participate in one of our exceptional programs.

The opportunities offered will enhance your academic experience in positive ways.

As one of our students, you will be offered a rare opportunity to earn a college degree, which will have a profound effect on your hopes and dreams for a bright future. This opportunity does not come without sacrifices and challenges, but as a participant in our program, you will receive ongoing comprehensive support.

FAFSA NEWS FLASH

Did you know?

- \$ You can file your 2017-2018 FAFSA as early as October 1, 2016.
- \$ 2017-2018 FAFSA will use your &/or parent's 2015 income and tax information.
- \$ You may be able to automatically import your tax information using the IRS Data Retrieval Tool.
- \$ StudentAid.gov/fafsa has much more information to help you plan.

ConnCAP & Upward Bound**Amanda Castro, Site Advisor**

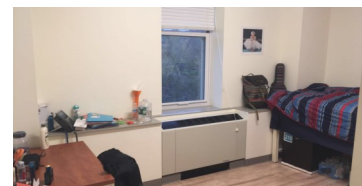
Our ConnCAP/Upward Bound Program is an enhanced student experience with preparation for college through community service projects, conference speakers, college tours and a summer curriculum. We will have four "Power Hour" sessions for DHS Seniors this year. The "Power Hour" will take place after school and offers additional support with the college application process, scholarship search, financial aid resources and completion of the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) and CSS (College Scholarship Service).

My office location at Danbury High School is in B212C, across from the cafeteria. Assistance in Spanish is available.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?**Steffanie Kruzan, Data Specialist**

Mohammed Alam
2015 ConnCAP/Upward Bound Alumni

"Hey guys I'm Momo! I go to CCSU in Hard Hittin' New Britain! I'm currently a sophomore at Central where I study Management Informational Systems and I play club volleyball, as well as a Resident Assistant, and a proud member of Phi Delta Theta Fraternity. My life as a student can very eventful but I love the feeling of being busy and making use of my time in college. If I'm not piled with school or distracted by my duties I spend my free time playing video games, pool, basketball, and going out with friends for all sorts of adventures. College is what you make of it, and my goal is to be remembered on my campus at the end of my 4 years! "

**EXCEL NEWS****A message from Jessica Coronel—Assistant Director**

Welcome Back Excel students!

Our mandatory student and parent / guardian meeting will take place Thursday, November 10th, 2016 at WCSU Science Building 125. We will start promptly at 6:30 and it will end at 8:00pm. During this meeting, you will have the opportunity to meet your Academic Advisors and find out more about our activities and our program expectations.

See you all there ;-)

WCSU CALENDAR INFO

November 11, 2016 - Veteran's Day, Class is in session.
November 23—27, 2016 - No classes.
November 24—25, 2016 - University is closed.
December 18, 2016 - Semester ends.
December 26, 2016 - University is closed.
January 2, 2017 - University is closed.

**DANBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS CALENDAR INFO**

November 11, 2016 - Veteran's Day. No school.
November 24 - 25, 2016 - No school.
December 24 - 31, 2016 - No school.
January 2, 2017 - No school.