



CSI

Center for Student Involvement

WESTERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY

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NEWSLETTER

Vol.1 Fall 2024



MARK YOUR CALENDAR IMPORTANT DATES

JANUARY

Classes begin: Jan. 22

FEBRUARY

Clubs Carnival: Feb. 5 from 12pm - 4pm in Westside Campus Ballroom

Mandatory General Assembly: Feb. 26 from 4pm - 5pm in Westside Campus Ballroom

MARCH

Spring Break: Mar. 17 - 23

APRIL

Inaugural Ball: Apr. 26 from 6pm - 1pm at Hotel Zero Degrees

MAY

Westfest: May 3 from 6pm - 10pm at Westside Commuter Lot

Senior Cruise: May 16 at Chelsea Piers NYC

Undergraduate and Graduate Commencement: May 19 at 11am



MESSAGE FROM THE CENTER FOR STUDENT INVOLVEMENT:

Welcome to our inaugural CSI Newsletter. The CSI staff thought this would be a great opportunity to not only get important information out to clubs and students, but to showcase some of the activities that WestConn's clubs are doing on and off campus. And frankly, everyone here is always doing really great things, so we want to spotlight all of those really great things. Who knows...we may feature that event you did with your club in our little newsletter and then BAM...it gets picked up by the Associated Press (...it can happen....)!

Ultimately, this is a publication that showcases what you all do to engage the students on our campus.

Whether it is travel, events, or community service activities, WestConn's clubs have never been more active, and we want to hear about it! If you or your club would like to be featured in a future newsletter, e-mail us at csi@wcsu.edu!

- Dennis



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STUDENT TRAVEL:

CSI assisted several students this semester to present research at conferences across the Northeast Region.



Sophia Chiaia and Sandra Zapata-Ramirez attended the *Entomological Society of America (ESA)* in Phoenix, AZ in November to share their research and network with professionals in the field. There were several showcases and academic sessions at this conference to gain insight into recent developments in entomology. This academic trip was funded by the *Student Government Association (SGA)*, the *WCSU Foundation*, and Dr. Neeta Connally.

Henry Schwendler attended the *IFore 2024* conference in Washington, D.C. that was hosted by *Sigma Xi*. At this conference, he was able to attend talks ranging from advancements in AI, how research can be used to help local populations, and the public's perception of science. He presented research on how Northern Diamondback Terrapins use nesting habitat, which won best poster for ecology and evolution category as shown in the photos. After this conference, he was able to join the *Sigma Xi Research Honor Society* as an associate member! This trip was supported by the *Student Government Association (SGA)* and the *WCSU Biology Department*.



Eleven students presented research at the *CSU Undergraduate English Conference* in New Britain, CT in November. The conference aims to allow students to share some of their recent writing projects with fellow students across the CSU system. The students were grouped by topic or subject area into different panels. One of the student's panel, Sarah Fayad, was titled "Identity and Post-Colonial Explorations" and my paper is titled "Believing is Hearing: How the Voices of Others Warp Identity and Alter Perception of Self in Michelle Cliff's *Abeng*". Her research explored how the people around you can deeply affect your identity. This academic trip was funded by the *Student Government Association (SGA)*.

WCSU DAY OF SERVICE:

On September 20th, 2024, Western Connecticut State University (WCSU) hosted its annual Day of Service, uniting students, faculty, and staff to give back to the community. Participants engaged in projects like environmental clean-ups, supporting shelters, and organizing donation drives. The Center for Student Involvement (CSI) volunteered at the YMCA, mulching the playground and cleaning the property. This event promotes civic responsibility and offers students a chance to make a difference in Danbury while gaining valuable experience. The Day of Service continues to foster connections and create lasting impact in the community.



PIZZA WITH THE PRESIDENT:

On November 20th, 2024, WCSU hosted the "Pizza with the President" event, giving students the opportunity to meet and engage with university president Dr. Manohar Singh in an informal setting. The event, held in the campus dining halls, allowed students to share their thoughts, ask questions, and discuss campus life over a casual pizza meal. It was a great chance for students to connect directly with the university's leadership and foster a sense of community on campus.



LCCC:

Get involved in WCSU's own Leadership Program and receive credit for the community service, club involvement, and leadership you are already doing within your organizations! Contact Lia Reynolds at reynoldsli@wcsu.edu to learn more.



EVENTS:

Highlights of events on campus including activities, student involvement, and of campus life.



The Welcome Back Bonfire, hosted by ACSA (African Caribbean Student Association) and BSU (Black Student Union). Students packed the Science Lawn to watch a movie, eat s'mores, and ring in the new school year with this movie night!



The Mid Autumn Festival, hosted by ASU (Asian Student Union). They rang in Autumn with this fun event including paper lantern making and moon cake tasting!



TKE (Tau Kappa Epsilon) and PAC (Program Activities Council) hosted a lively bingo night on campus, offering students a fun chance to relax, socialize, and win prizes.



SGA (Student Government Association), WCSU Beyond Borders, and LASO (Latin American Student Organizations) hosted a vibrant Latin Block Party celebrating Latinx culture. The event featured music, dancing, and delicious food, fostering unity and appreciation for diversity at WCSU.



Wally's Cupboard and PAC (Program Activities Council) partnered to host a bingo night that combined fun with a meaningful cause. The event gave students a chance to win prizes while raising awareness and support for the campus food pantry.



WIG (Western Improv Group) kicked off the Fall season with their "ThanksWIGing" event, delivering an excellent improv show that brought plenty of laughs and entertainment to the WCSU community.

FUNDRAISERS:

This organization had a huge successful fundraiser event this past semester.



PsychAlliance hosted the popular “Pie a Professor” event, letting students pie their favorite professors and staff in the face for fun. The event helped relieve stress and raised funds for PsychAlliance’s initiatives, bringing the WCSU community together in a lighthearted way.

DEVELOPING CLUBS:

These are organizations that are under the developmental period with the SGA.

African American Empowerment Association (AAEA)

A student organization focused on promoting cultural awareness, social justice, and empowerment within the African American community.

Anime Club

A student organization where members watch and discuss anime, fostering a fun and inclusive community for fans and newcomers alike.

Cybertech Society

A student organization focused on technology, cybersecurity, and digital innovation.

UP-AND-COMING CLUBS:

These are organizations that are starting the process to become SGA recognized clubs.

Fencing Club

A student organization where members learn and practice fencing, focusing on technique, strategy, and sportsmanship in a supportive and fun environment.

Eversion Dance

A student organization that unites dancers of all styles and skill levels to explore dance, collaborate, and showcase their talents in a supportive community.

World Language Club

A student organization that celebrates global cultures and languages through events, language practice, and cultural activities, fostering an inclusive environment for cross-cultural exchange.

LIST OF ALL CLUBS:

- Accounting Society
- African American Empowerment Association
- African Caribbean Student Association
- Alpha Phi Sigma Honor Society
- American Choral Directors Association
- Appellate Advocacy Society
- Artist Round Table
- Asian Student Union
- Aspiring Educators Association
- Astronomy Club
- Audio and Music Production Club
- Broadcast Education Association
- Bella Canto
- Biology Club
- Black Social Workers Association
- Black Student Union
- Brass Club
- Chemistry Club
- CLIO History Journal
- Commuter Student Organization
- Cybertech Society
- Finance Club
- Food as Medicine
- Fraternity and Sorority Life Council
- Gender and Sexuality Alliance
- Herpetology Club
- Honors Student of Compassion Club
- HPX Club
- Ives Concert Flutists
- Jazz Club
- Justice and Law Society
- Keyboard Club
- Latin American Student Organization
- Meteorology Club
- Minorities in Medicine
- Music Education Club
- Muslim Student Association
- National Society of Leadership and Success
- Network for Students of Anthropology/Sociology
- Play It By Ear A Cappella
- Pre-Physician Assistant Society

- Prisma Fine Art Club
- Program Activities Council
- Psi Chi International Honor Society
- Psychology Student Association
- Roots and Shoots
- Rotaract
- Shuffle! WCSU Tap Dance Club
- Social Work Club
- Strings Club
- Student Government Association
- Student Nurses Association
- Student Publications Board
- Student Veterans Organization
- The Centers Board
- The Echo Newspaper
- The Fourth Wall
- WCSU Anime Club
- WCSU Beyond Borders
- WCSU Center Stage
- WCSU Math Club
- WCSU Opera Club
- Western Adventure Club
- Western Entrepreneurial Society
- Western Improv Group
- Western Marketing Association
- WXCI Campus Radio

Sororities and Fraternities:

- Alpha Delta Pi
- Delta Gamma Phi
- Kappa Chi Alpha
- Sigma Delta Tau
- Sigma Chi
- Tau Kappa Epsilon

For more information on clubs, scan the QR Code



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