CHUCK MORRELL TO RETIRE

Chuck Morrell arrived at the UConn Student Union in August, 1982. He had previously served five years in the U.S. Navy Medical Corps. He was deployed on several ships as an election officer and as a medical unit officer at numerous U.S. Naval Installations throughout the world. After completing a B.S. in Business Administration and Economics at Eastern Connecticut State University, while serving as the Coordinator of Student Activities at Mohawk Community College, he joined the UConn Student Union staff.

Chuck served as the Night Manager of the Student Union from 1982 until 1984. Chuck developed the Student Union Building Manager Program that was designed to eliminate the need for a full time Night Manager. Since 1984, there have been one hundred and forty five undergraduate students that have served in this role. Chuck remains a strong supporter of the program and believes that it is one of the finest in the country.

In 1985, Chuck became the Assistant Director of Operations and served in this role until 1998 when he succeeded Joan Rogers as the Associate Director of Operations. In 1998, the Student Union embarked on the renovation and addition project for the building that lasted until early 2006. Chuck worked closely with the architects, WTW Architects and Cannon Design, as well as the contractor Konovery Construction throughout the course of the project. The project team met weekly but it was Chuck who kept reminding everyone that we were building a Student Union and we had to get it right.

The addition of the Cultural Centers, a five hundred seat movie theatre, ballroom and multi-purpose room are a few of the significant changes that were added during the project. However, the introduction of the food court, specifically the three national restaurants, added the “pop” that the students demanded in the new Student Union.

The last few years has kept Chuck busy taking care of the Student Union. He has provided leadership for the maintenance staff and served as the primary point of contact for University Facilities Operations and the numerous vendors that provide services to the building. Chuck has often said, “The building is our living room of the campus” and it’s “our job to make it a place of comfort and safety with the amenities that the students require.”

Over the past few years, Chuck has served as the primary advisor to the Student Union Policy Council which is a part of SUBOG. This group has flourished and provided a number of recommendations that continue to improve the services and amenities within the Student Union.

In 1986, Chuck became involved in the Association of College Unions International, ACUI. He has served in numerous regional and international leadership positions. In 1993 he served as Chairperson for the first Region One international regional conference at Strathclyde University in Glasgow, Scotland. This past March he received the ACUI “Emmeritus Award” for his years of service to the Association. He was also inducted into the “Heartstone Society” as a contributing member of the ACUI Foundation.

Chuck has established an annual award that will recognize a student employee in the Student Union that demonstrates a commitment to customer service. This award will be funded at the conclusion of an on-going campaign to create an endowed scholarship.

After 31 years at UConn, Chuck has decided to retire on November 1st, 2013 and he will take some time to travel with his wife Kate and enjoy quality time with his family, daughter Erin and son Rob, and friends.

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studentunion.uconn.edu/alumni.html

Gift Designation (required):
☐ The M. Kevin Fahey Endowment for Student Activities (31127)
☐ Student Union Enhancement Fund (22271)
☐ Chuck Morrell “Customer Service” Award Fund (23008)

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I wish for my/our gift to remain anonymous.

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BY CHRISTINE WILSON, DIRECTOR OF STUDENT ACTIVITIES

I couldn’t be prouder of our Student Activities (SA) staff, so I am going to brag about how much we’ve done this year! They always do so effective and meaningful work, and make life better for students at UConn.

2012-2013 was no different. In addition to their good work supporting student organizations, leading development workshops and series, service learning programs, spirit initiatives, and major events on campus, they made significant improvements to campus life through several new initiatives.

First, new ticketing software was purchased. The goal of this new software is to better serve students through on-line purchasing and the ability for student groups to set up their event voting software.

Student Activities continued to facilitate the Joint Elections Project, in 2011, all of the major governance organizations scheduled their elections at the same time and used the same voting software. Over the past three years, SA has helped these organizations improve awareness of their groups and the elections, and added education for candidates on voter education and campaigns. In 2012, SA purchased new, professional, user friendly software for voting. The students love this system, and in 2013, SA used it not only at Storrs, but for three additional elections on two regional campuses. More regional campuses are scheduled to use this software in 2013-2014. This was also a record year for challenge courses. In the four short years since the course opened, we have more than tripled the number of courses and participants. Over 1000 students now use this course each year for teambuilding and group development.

Club Sports continued to be an important component for sports loving students and former high school athletes. There are over 1200 Club Sports athletes on over 43 teams. This was a great year for Club Sports athletes attending national tournaments. 8 athletes from 6 teams represented UConn at national tournaments around the country.

Student Activities also provided major support for the “Touch a Truck” spring weekend. All year, staff from around the department worked with the fee funded groups, Community Outreach, and student organizations to plan a variety of service, educational, and social activities that were centered and organized into three themes. UConn Learns, UCONN Serves, and UCONN Leads. The result was what the Haskell Characterized as a successful campaign with a lot of “crazy” energy that spring weekend which had become.

Finally, a big shoutout to the Community Outreach office in Student Activities! UConn was selected as a Presidential Award Winner on the President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll. The programs in this office are the backbone of the office’s successes and service learning at UConn. Congratulations!

Well, that wraps up our highlights for 2012-13. Let me know if you want any more detail on any of these initiatives. We will have more good news next year!
In the spring of 2012, a campaign to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the UConn Student Union was kicked off and has continued to receive overwhelming support! More than $70,000 has been donated, supporting scholarships and leadership development through the Student Union Enhancement Fund, the M. Kevin Fahey Endowment for Student Activities and the M. Kevin Fahey Scholarship Endowment, and the Chuck Morrell Customer Service Award Fund.

The Chuck Morrell Customer Service Award Fund was added this fall in honor of Chuck Morrell’s retirement on November 1. Chuck, a Student Union employee for the past 30 years, and his family established an endowment in his name which will be awarded to a graduating senior employed by the Student Union for at least one academic year who has demonstrated excellence in customer service.

For those who have already donated or pledged, thank you for your support! If you have not yet participated, please join us in reaching our goal of $100,000 by making a donation. All individuals donating to any of the funds mentioned above will be recognized in the Student Union Alumni Newsletter and be invited to a reception in the spring. Those contributing $1,000 or more before April 2014 will also be listed on a plaque that will be mounted in the Student Union. If you wish to make a donation, visit our secure giving page at friends.uconn.edu/studentunion60th.

If you have any questions about the campaign please contact Rachel Marshall at 860.486.2983 or rmarshall@foundation.uconn.edu.
STUDENT UNION 60TH ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN HONORARY COMMITTEE

Co-Chairs
M. Kevin Fahey
Jeanne Ahern Mogayzel

Honorary Committee
Heather Barbourt ’00
Douglass A. Bernstein ’85
Eric R. Bernstein ’97 ’05
Dr. H. L. Brammell ’57
Jonathan D. Caplan & Kathy Caplan
Russell L. Clarkson ’83
Michael J. Fougere ’04
Leatrice Furano ’56
Mary Casey Gilhuly ’91
Dr. Paul Godfrey ’62 & Melinda Godfrey
Harris Goldberg
Debra J. Holcomb ’90
David R. Howlett ’74 ’75 ’80 & Catherine K. Howlett ’96
Robert A. Johnson ’69 ’79 & Melinda Johnson ’70 ’95
Mary Casey McAllister ’87
Dr. H. L. Brammell ’57
Cara Workman ’95
Richard M. Steele ’58
Dean C. Shulman ’82
Marshall Senk ’85 ’87
Monica Rudzik
Marshall Senk ’85 ’87
David Ushery ’89
Carla Workman ’95
Lawrence R. Yakaitis ’81 & Lauren Garbarino Yakaitis ’82
Karen LaMalva ’96
Catherine Kress-McGettigan ’86
Frederick J. Ku ’95
Sherry (Colombato) Lawrence ’95
Marie (Sandy) Matava ’64
Megan Vose Milas ’08 & Spyridon T. Milas ’08
Laura Furdon Miller ’00
Chuck V. Morrell
Erin E. Morrell ’01
Robert Morrell ’07
Lt. Mishonda Rankin Mesley ’94
Jennifer A. Osowiecki ’85 ’94
Ronald Pape ’82
Karen McAllister Perkins ’87
Judy Preston & Larry Preston ’73
Monica Rudzik
Marshall Senk ’85 ’87
Dean C. Shulman ’82
Richard M. Steele ’58
David Ushery ’89
Carla Workman ’95
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Karen LaMalva ’96

STUDENT UNION EMPLOYEE PROFILE:
MEET PATTY GILLIGAN

What is your current position in the Student Union?
I started working in the U as a clerical assistant, with a variety of duties, then 17 years ago when Pat Cropper retired, I took on the duties of Reservationist. Presently I specialize as an “Event Planning Coordinator”

How long have you worked in the Student Union?
29 years this past September

What do you enjoy most about your position?
I get to talk all day and if you know me… you know I like to talk

What has been your most memorable moment in the Student Union?
I cannot pick out just one; I have grown up at UConn and the U and have witnessed multiple events, lived through the growth of the campus and met and said goodbye to lots of wonderful people. I am happy I took lots of photos through the years.

What have you learned from this job?
Expect the unexpected

What advice would you give others interested in working in your position?
You must be very detail oriented and steadfast.

What is your favorite quote?
Write your sorrows in the sand… Carve your blessings in stone

If you were not working at the Student Union, what do you think your dream job would be?
This one is easy; I would be a taste tester at “See’s Candies”

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What a semester it has been! My name is Jamille Rancourt and I am the current SUBOG President. This semester has been packed with so many successful events! Travel took us to see Chicago on Broadway and Ziplining in the Berkshires. Our Fine and Performing Arts committee also had a Murder Mystery dinner and a Rap Rumble. As my second year of President, I truly feel that this board and all our committee members have been exceptionally creative. Students have responded enthusiastically to our homegrown and out-of-the-box events.

Homecoming was particularly original this year with a theme of “It Takes Two”. “It Takes Two” revolved around the idea of dynamic duos like Bert and Ernie, Mario and Luigi, and Jay and Daisy Gatsby! The organizations went above and beyond to embrace the theme and make the most of all SUBOG’s events. Most importantly, the rain could NOT stop our parade! Despite dreary weather, organizations were enthusiastic and excited to share their floats and theme with the student body. It set a great tone for the rest of the week! Stef Dolson was another great addition to Homecoming week, as she was a hilarious host to Lip Sync. Overall, the theme was unique and embraced by the whole university. I am so impressed with what SUBOG has done!

On Halloween weekend, we also sent 10 delegates to the National Association of Campus Activities Conference in Hartford, CT. Our board members came back with new ideas to share with their committees and we will be seeing a lot of new things happen in the Spring! As the semester wraps up, we have a few more events up our sleeves and are planning for big things in the Spring! The Winter Weekend theme will be “SNOlympics” in honor of the 2014 Winter Olympics. Be sure to stop by One Ton Sundae on February 7th from 11AM – 2PM if you are around! We love to see alumni and share what is going on with SUBOG.

I can’t believe that the semester is coming to an end. The spring will be my last semester with SUBOG and while I am excited for my endeavors beyond UConn, leaving SUBOG will be very bittersweet. Luckily, I have some time for it to sink in and plenty of opportunities to enjoy SUBOG events. I encourage you to check out our website for updates on our events (subog.uconn.edu). We can also be found on Facebook and twitter (@SUBOGatUCONN). Enjoy the holidays and keep in touch!

“SUPER-U” STUDENT EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION PROGRAM

Our student employees are the everyday “heroes” in the Student Union. The Super-U Recognition Program recognizes Student Union employees who display exemplary customer service beyond the expectations of their job. This recognition program is based on the customer service principles of service, attitude, consistency, and team work. Each month, students and staff have the opportunity to write a short nomination for an individual student staff member who has gone above and beyond the call of duty. The nominations are then voted on by the full-time staff members and a winner is announced. The recipients are true leaders who serve as role models to others, encourage and motivate peers, are extremely helpful with any and every task, and much more. This award is meant to recognize outstanding work that is more than just meeting the job description requirements. Each month, a winner receives individual recognition along with a $25 gift card to a place of their choice. At the end of the semester, the top three nominees from each month will have a chance to win a $20 gift card to a place of their choice. In addition, building managers, supervisors, and full-time staff will have “Mighty-Avenger Awards” (gum packs) to give to student workers at any given time who they observe going the “extra mile.”

A CHECK-IN WITH SUBOG PRESIDENT JAMILLE RANCOURT

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