Our Campus, Our Planet
Monday, August 30, 2010

9:15 a.m.  Students meet their RAs

10 a.m.  Nanotechnology and Sustainability
Sessions
10–11 a.m., United Technologies Hall, room 320
In his lecture, Lou Manzione, dean of the College of Engineering, Technology, and Architecture, will highlight the importance of two megatrends—the Internet and nanotechnology—to show how both will play critical roles in a sustainable future. The growth of bandwidth on the Internet will usher in a new era of interpersonal interactions that will effectively replace moving people with moving electrons. Nanotechnology will create a new technological base that mimics biological processes at the molecular scale rather than harming life processes at the macro scale. It will allow us to manipulate biological molecules to produce energy, specialty materials, genome-specific drugs, and to undo the damage of decades of macro-scale engineering. We will learn how these two trends will complement each other to create our best hope for a sustainable future.

Our Planet in Peril: a Common Environmental Reading
10–11 a.m., Hillyer Hall, room 301 (also at 12:30 p.m)
Students in the Environmental Residential Learning Community in Hawk Hall will read portions of Rachel Carson’s *Silent Spring* and a related short work of fiction before their arrival on campus. Hillyer College faculty members Stephan Bullard and William Major will lead a discussion focusing on the current health of the planet, our personal and collective roles in affecting the planet, steps we can take to mitigate this impact, and how actions here on campus can affect the broader community and the environment.

Our Campus, Our Footprint, Our Actions
10–11 a.m., Hillyer Hall, room 258 (also at 11:30 a.m.)
Assistant Professor Katharine Owens, Department of Politics and Government in the College of Arts and Sciences, and students Alex Guziak and Hilary Keiser will discuss student research in sustainability. They will present results of a survey conducted in 2009–10 on student attitudes about the environment, and an assessment of the greenhouse gases on our campus.

Water Quality and Invasive Plants: Exploring the Campus River and Pond
10–11:30 a.m., Meet at K parking lot at corner of ISET building (also at 1 p.m.)
Assistant Professor Bin Zhu, Department of Biology in the College of Arts and Sciences, will lead a tour of the Hog River and campus pond and demonstrate how scientists quantify water pollution in these two ecosystems. The group will address the importance of water, the ecology of rivers and ponds, and invasive species as a type of pollutant.

River Art
10 a.m.–12 p.m, East Hall, room 220
In an initial talk, Associate Professor Sherry Buckberrough, Department of Art History in the College of Arts and Sciences, will discuss the work of artist Andy Goldsworthy. Then students will participate in an outdoor workshop on the Hog River to make their own works of art from leaves, flowers, sticks, rocks, moss, and other natural elements.
An Inconvenient Truth
10 a.m.–12 p.m., Lincoln Theater (also at 12:45 p.m.)
Associate Professor Tom Filburn, Department of Mechanical Engineering in CETA, will host the screening. Come see the Academy Award-winning 2006 documentary directed by Davis Guggenheim about former United States Vice President Al Gore's campaign to educate citizens about global warming. By his own estimate, Gore has presented the comprehensive slide show more than a thousand times.

Flow: For Love of Water
10 a.m.–12 p.m., Auerbach Auditorium (also at 1 p.m.)
Randi Ashton-Pritting, director of University Libraries, will host the screening of Irena Salina’s award-winning documentary investigation into what experts label the most important political and environmental issue of the 21st century—the world water crisis.

The Great Global Warming Swindle
10 a.m.–12 p.m., Dana Hall, Mali 2
Professor Laurence Gould, Department of Physics in the College of Arts and Sciences, will present a short documentary, The Great Global Warming Swindle, and lead a discussion of its contents. The film includes interviews with prominent climate scientists who dispute claims of dangerous man-made global warming.

Sharks Are Our Friends
11 a.m.–12 p.m., Dana Hall, Mali 1
Associate Professor Joanna Borucinska, Department of Biology in the College of Arts and Sciences, will offer a PowerPoint lecture on the effects of human activity on the health and survival of sharks, and of marine ecosystems in general.

The Tragedy of the Commons
11 a.m.–12 p.m., Hillyer Hall, room 229
Can common spaces—for example, the oceans, public lands—be shared resources used for the benefit of all? Or are we trapped by the classic predicament known as the “tragedy of the commons,” where common resources are overused and ultimately destroyed? Jane Horvath, associate professor of economics in the College of Arts and Sciences, will lead a panel discussion on the issue. Can self-organizing communities work together to ensure that common resources are used in a sustainable manner?

Where Does Your Trash Go?
11 a.m.–12 p.m., Auerbach Hall, room 424
Associate Professor Jay Stewart, Department of Sociology in the College of Arts and Sciences, shows that trash facilities, such as incinerators, are more likely to be located in minority neighborhoods and that the pollution from these facilities has health consequences. In addition, he will describe new discoveries about toxic chemicals and recent state legislation regulating them.

Meet Your Campus!
11 a.m.–12 p.m., United Technologies Hall, room 320 (also at 1 p.m.)
Chris Dupuis, senior project manager in the Department of Facilities, will explain the physical layout of the University: its buildings and organization into academic, residential, and athletic zones; its interior square footage and external acreage. Dupuis will describe the green initiatives underway on campus and the environmental organizations students can join. He will also talk about the new energy conservation competition in the residence halls and inform students how they can participate.

Meet the Trees
11 a.m.–12:30 p.m., Hillyer Hall lobby (second floor)
Professor Laura Pence, Department of Chemistry in the College of Arts and Sciences, will lead a tour of the distinctive trees on the University of Hartford campus and explore what trees do, how they work, and their enormous variety.
Hog River History and Ecology
11 a.m.–12:30 p.m. front steps of Gengras Student Union
Assistant Professor Wick Griswold, Hillyer College, and Margaret Mair, University archivist, will provide insight as to the Hog River’s place in our ecosystem, and a history of the river and the land through which it runs.

11:30 a.m. REPEAT: Our Campus, Our Footprint, Our Actions
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LUNCH Available anytime from 11:30 a.m.–1 p.m. in University Commons.

12:30 p.m. Civic Engagement in the Barney School of Business
Session
12:30–1:30 p.m., Auerbach Hall, room 424
What is “civic engagement”? Hear about ways business students in the Barney School are involved in civic engagement in their classes. Panelists: Barney School of Business faculty members Karen Gantt, Margery Steinberg, Deborah Kidder

REPEAT: Our Planet in Peril: a Common Environmental Reading
12:30–1:30 p.m., Hillyer Hall, room 301 (also at 10 a.m.)
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The Psychology of Volunteerism
12:30–1:30 p.m., East Hall, room 220 (also at 1:30 p.m.)
John Mehm, director of the doctoral program in Clinical Psychology in the College of Arts and Sciences, will explore the question of what motivates people to bond together in pursuit of common purposes.

12:45 p.m. REPEAT: An Inconvenient Truth
Session
12:45–2:45 p.m., Lincoln Theater
Associate Professor Scott Scribner, Department of Philosophy, Hillyer College, will host the screening. Come see the Academy Award-winning 2006 documentary directed by Davis Guggenheim about former United States Vice President Al Gore’s campaign to educate citizens about global warming. By his own estimate, Gore has presented the comprehensive slide show more than a thousand times.

1 p.m. E-Cycling
Session
1–2 p.m., Dana Hall, room 204 (also at 2 p.m.)
Associate Professor Ladimer Nagurney, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering in the College of Engineering, Technology, and Architecture, will discuss the environmental impact of discarding personal electronics (such as cell phones, mp3 players, batteries) as well as computer equipment, and the current state of recycling potentially harmful materials used in everyday personal electronics. This topic is known as “e-cycling” and describes the cradle-to-grave environmental stewardship of our gadgets.
Native American Concepts of Nature
1–2 p.m., Hillyer Hall, room 258
Professor of Ethnomusicology Anthony Rauche of Hillyer College will lead a panel discussion of the ways—very different from our own—in which Native Americans conceptualized the environment, in particular as a manifestation of the sacred.

Global Warming—But Is It True?
1–3 p.m., Dana Hall, Mali 2
Professor Laurence Gould, Department of Physics in the College of Arts and Sciences, along with meteorologist Art Horn will lead presentations and discussions regarding the meaning and scientific validity of man-made global warming/climate change from a critical thinking point of view. Part of the discussions will feature the book State of Fear by Michael Crichton.

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REPEAT: Flow: For Love of Water
1–3 p.m., Auerbach Auditorium (also at 10 a.m.)
Assistant Professor Natacha Poggio, Hartford Art School, will host the screening of Irena Salina’s award-winning documentary investigation into what experts label the most important political and environmental issue of the 21st century—the world water crisis.

REPEAT: Water Quality and Invasive Plants: Exploring the Campus River and Pond
1–2:30 p.m., K parking lot at corner of ISET Building (also at 10 a.m.)
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Architecture in a Green World: LEED and Environmentally Friendly Buildings
1–2 p.m., Hillyer Hall, room 217 (also at 2 p.m.)
Associate Professor James E. Fuller, the Department of Architecture in the College of Engineering, Technology, and Architecture, will discuss the current direction of architecture and how architects are addressing the critical issue of sustainable design. What is LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design)? What are the newest developments in design and construction? What are the opportunities and obstacles in creating structures at the University that are carbon-footprint neutral?

REPEAT: The Psychology of Volunteerism
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Alumni Panel: Green Careers
1:30–3 p.m., Dana Hall, Mali 1
Come and meet University graduates who have carved out successful careers in environmental fields. Host: Kandyce Aust, director of alumni relations.

2 p.m. REPEAT: E-Cycling
Sessions 2–3 p.m., Dana Hall, room 204 (also at 1 p.m.)
Associate Professor Ladimer Nagurney, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering in the College of Engineering, Technology, and Architecture, will discuss the environmental impact of discarding personal electronics (such as cell phones, mp3 players, batteries) as well as computer equipment, and the current state of recycling potentially harmful materials used in everyday personal electronics. This topic is known as "e-cycling" and describes the cradle-to-grave environmental stewardship of our gadgets.

Economics in Action: Transportation, the Environment, and Health
2–3 p.m., Auerbach Hall, room 324
Associate Professor Jeff Cohen of the Barney School of Business will address two questions: What are the economic benefits and costs of sustainability? Can understanding economics help us be more efficient in the areas of transportation and health, and their impact on the environment? He will discuss examples based on airport noise, green infrastructure, and solar energy.

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Environmental Health
2–3 p.m., United Technologies Hall, room 320
Adjunct Professor of Nursing Kathy Murphy, College of Education, Nursing and Health Professions, will discuss the expanding field of environmental health. She will explain how our daily decisions—about water, food, cleaning supplies, and transportation—make an impact on environmental and human health. Learn how each of us can make a difference on the campus as well as in our homes and in our communities.

3:15 p.m. College Orientation Meetings