This November marked a very special month at Unity House. Through the efforts of students, staff, and faculty, we welcomed our neighbors, the Eastern Pequot Tribal Nation, to our campus.

The month began with student lead events that help spread awareness of current Native American issues in Connecticut and throughout the nation. Students showed films and documentaries, lead group discussions, and brought in leading professors and scholars from Massachusetts.

We also held the Native American Heritage Month Convocation with the amazing support of the Unity House staff, and our very own Christine Roundtree '15.

“Reconnecting with Our Native Brothers & Sisters”

The month began with student lead events that help spread awareness of current Native American issues in Connecticut and throughout the nation.
This event brought in an audience of students, staff, faculty, and over twenty members of the Eastern Pequot Tribal Nation. Elder Norma Parish opened the event with a prayer and Unity House intern, Kevin Zevallos ‘16, shared a reflective piece as part of his welcome. The Unity House Interns then presented an informative powerpoint about the history of the Pequot Tribal Nation and current challenges faced in their battle to receive federal recognition from the government.

Poet Natasha Grambel, student at Eastern Connecticut State University, performed a very powerful piece that reflected on the day that the tribe was denied federal recognition, followed by a beautiful song of thanksgiving by Sheri Jones. The event then concluded with a speech by alumnae Alexandra Owens who eloquently spoke of her time at Conn and her passion to represent and educate others on the contemporary Native. We were so happy to have Alexandra back at Conn and we can’t wait to work with her, and the Eastern Pequot Tribal Nation, once again!

ALUMNI SPEAKER: ALEXANDRA (ALI) OWENS ’08

Alexandra Owens grew up in West Hartford, CT and is a tribal member of the Historic Eastern Pequot Tribal Nation where she goes by the name “Singing Bird.” Alexandra graduated with a Bachelor of Arts from Connecticut College in 2008 majoring in Biology and minor in Art. Most recently she graduated from the University of Hartford Post-Baccalaureate Premedical program which encompassed all premedical prerequisite courses required for admission to medical school. In addition to her studies, Alexandra was a Social Media Marketer, Web Marketer and Community Outreach Coordinator for one of the most popular entertainment ticket sites in the country for nearly five years. She resigned this year to begin studying for the MCAT, writing her mother’s biography and working on the tribal website. She is also a freelance baker and likes to volunteer for anti-hunger organizations. In the next year she hopes to gain clinical and/or laboratory experience and begin the exciting process of applying to medical school.
Fall 2013 Pictures!

DIVERSITY PEER EDUCATORS

SHE PROGRAM

INTERN NAHM EVENT

MOCA PROGRAM

RISE RETREAT
ALANA Big Sib Applications are now available!

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN MENTORING FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS? Swing by Unity House for a Big Sib application! Whether you were in ALANA or not, all interested candidates are encouraged to apply!

Deadline is Friday, December 13th!

FINALS ARE COMING UP!
MAKE SURE TO GIVE YOURSELF A BREAK!

B3 - BRAIN BOOST BREAK!

Monday, December 16
Unity House
8-10pm
Snacks, refreshments, raffle prizes, and more!

OVCS Community Learning Thank You
Friday, December 6
1941 Room, Cro, 4pm

“Top-25 Most LGBTQ Friendly College” Celebration
Monday, December 9
Ernst Common Room, Blaustein, 4:30 - 6pm

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