



8:30 am Continental Breakfast

9:00 am Welcoming Remarks

**Richard A. Miller, Esq.**  
*Director, Office of Environmental Policy*

**Susan Herbst**  
*President*

**Dr. Gene E. Likens**  
*Distinguished Visiting Faculty & Environmental Advisor to the President*

9:30am Presentation of Awards

**UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT – TANNER BURGDORF**  
A student in the Program of Landscape Architecture, Tanner has been a leader in the EcoHouse Living Learning Community and one of the strongest contributors to Spring Valley Student Farm. Tanner also leads an effort to create a permaculture garden in front of Whitney dining hall.

Finalist: **Nirav Patel**, Senior Undergraduate Student, Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering

*Honorable Mentions: Bryan Flanagan and Jennifer Hayes*

**GRADUATE STUDENT – UDAYARKA KARRA, PH.D CANDIDATE**  
Udayarka is a graduate student in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, working at the forefront of research in underwater energy harvesting. His work has a profound significance for bioenergy production, environmental sustainability, and national security. Uday is known for his multidisciplinary collaboration in research, but also by participating in sustainability outreach beyond UConn.

Finalist: **Carlo Santoro**, Ph.D Candidate, Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering  
*Honorable Mention: Corinna Fleischmann*

**UNIVERSITY STAFF – DENNIS PIERCE**

As Director of Dining Services, Dennis Pierce used his management post to initiate an on-campus farmers' market, increase local, organic and green-certified food and beverages, and promote the use of recycled-content cups and reusable food cartons in cafes and dining halls. He supports student-run farms and environmental outreach events, coordinated a campus-wide reusable water bottle initiative, and introduced both trayless dining and the use of in-kitchen decomposers to reduce food waste, conserve energy and save water.

Finalists: **Douglas Goodstein**, Residence Hall Director  
*Honorable Mentions: Colleen Spurlock and Scott Gallo*

**UNIVERSITY FACULTY – ALLISON MACKAY**

Despite the demands on an associate professor in the technical Environmental Engineering discipline, Dr. MacKay developed UConn's first GenEd course focused on Environmental Sustainability to broaden student awareness about the socio-economic and political factors influencing environmental decisions. She has co-taught courses such as Advanced Topics in Sustainability and The Environmental Debate, both of which included practical UConn campus sustainability examples and tours.

Finalist: **Charlotte Rand**, Program Coordinator,  
Natural Resources Conservation Academy  
*Honorable Mentions: Gary Robbins, Joseph Bushey, Patricia Bergman,  
Peter Luh and Phoebe Godfrey*

**REGIONAL CAMPUS STAFF – DAVID PORTEOUS**

David Porteous, a grants and contracts specialist in the School of Social Work, is a tireless advocate for green initiatives. As Chair of the Greater Hartford Campus (GHC) Green Team, he assembled and led a diverse group of students, faculty and staff, and worked with a long-time contracted trash hauler, to implement recycling improvements that have tripled GHC's recycling rate.

Finalist: **Michael Alfultis**, Regional Director at Avery Point  
*Honorable Mention: Syma Ebbin*

**ALUMNI – CHRISTOPHER BELLUCCI**

Chris Bellucci is a Supervising Environmental Analyst for the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP). He developed the first impervious cover-based Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) program in the nation—a model now followed by several states. The resulting UConn/DEEP/Mansfield collaboration led to a significant improvement in sustainable stormwater management on campus and helped make UConn a national leader in Low Impact Design.

**UConn Student Affiliated Group –  
UConn Chapter of Engineers Without Borders:  
THE NICARAGUA TEAM**

The UConn Chapter of Engineers without Borders has been a global ambassador for UConn's sustainability leadership. They laid the groundwork for important environmental contributions to an impoverished village in Nicaragua that may spark enormous economic and societal improvements for village residents.

**UConn Affiliated Group – ECOHOUSE/ SPRING VALLEY FARM**  
The team that created the EcoHouse Learning Community has forever raised the bar at UConn on student engagement in campus sustainability initiatives—from growing food and learning about sustainable agriculture at Spring Valley Student Farm, to participating in Green Game Days, to developing environmental service alternative spring breaks. EcoHouse and SVSF open the door for students who wish to learn about the environment by living sustainably and contributing to environmental stewardship on and off campus.

Finalist: **Center for Clean Energy Engineering**  
*Honorable Mentions: Office of University Planning, CIMA Organizing  
Committee, Arboretum Committee, Climate Change Adaptation Task Force,  
President's Committee on Corporate Social Responsibility*

**TEAM – UConn's Lighting Retrofit &  
RETRO-COMMISSIONING TEAMS**

Facilities Management staff are true leaders on Climate Action at UConn. They've teamed up with academic and operational departments as well as local business partners to mitigate our greenhouse gas emissions, improve the efficiency of our buildings and reduce operating costs. Since 2010, with assistance from Northeast Utilities/CL&P, UConn has begun retro-commissioning 34 buildings, completing 13 projects, and with help from ConServ has finished 73 lighting retrofit projects. Together these projects have reduced UConn's carbon footprint by more than 5000 tons per year while also saving \$1 million in annual energy costs. Our business partners have helped us receive state energy efficiency rebates and promote the environmental and economic benefits of these building improvement projects to the University community and beyond.

Finalists: **The Compost Facility Team**  
*Honorable Mentions: EV Initiative Team, UConn Cycles Team,  
Green Parking Lots Team, Fuel Cell at the Depot Campus Team*

10:15 am

Closing Remarks

