When you are walking along the street, in class, or shopping, or someplace where you are in a group of people, what’s your mode of thinking? Are you celebrating all the positive things you see or imagine about the people around you? Or are you thinking about all of the things that are critical of the persons around you? Is the brown man wearing a “rag” possibly a gifted artist or do you have him marked as a gang member? Is the older white woman with tats and piercings a freak, or possibly a person who cares a great deal for Veterans at the local VA Hospital?

It’s so easy to think negatively and stereotype. If you can think of 10 things you don’t like about something, try to think of 10 things you DO like about something. Go ahead. Try it. It’s a great exercise to do often!

Diversity is a wonderful thing. We need to think the best of each other first. And talk about how we label and group each other even when it is uncomfortable to do so. Until we do that, with civility, we will have the environment we have in the world at-large. We need to treat all people with respect and dignity and be welcoming first!

Today I heard...”Intent does not count. Impact does.” So even if my intent in this message is not to be hurtful to anyone, but to have the impact of making a positive difference on campus with regard to how we treat each other as diverse individuals, some of you may not see my message as helpful. To you, I apologize if you perceive harm, and hope that my intent to impact positively has a positive effect on many of you.

Over this holiday season, I ask that you see the best in others first, rather than the worst. See if you can have an impact on others in your world in a positive way. Our world needs this now more than ever. Thank you and have a safe break, and a Happy New Year.

Thank you!
The Student Center staff wants to thank all student employees who supported all activities and programs this fall. This support is in addition to providing the Student Center’s daily services. Your hard work & efforts are much appreciated!

Follow Us!
The Student Center uses many different social media outlets. Don’t forget to follow us and see what goes on at the Student Center!
- Facebook.com/CCSU.Student.Center
- Twitter.com/CCSUToday
- Instagram.com/CCSUStudentCenter
- Facebook.com/Breakers-Gameroom-140877152659255/

STARdust is the newsletter for the student employees of the Student Center, a department of Student Affairs at Central Connecticut State University. STARdust is produced by Student Center's Graphic Design team and Graduate Intern Chris Hazelton. To submit information to STARdust, please email Chris at st_ch8333@ccsu.edu. Our deadline for submissions is the last day of each month for the following issue.
Student Personnel

- Please submit your timesheet after your last shift before leaving for winter break.
- If you request to move to a lower level area of responsibility, your pay-rate will be re-evaluated and you will be compensated accordingly for your experience and that position.
- If you have changed your personal address or phone number, please give that information to Maureen Zukowski so she can maintain the database.
- Time clock/scheduling information: Please don’t forget to enter your time clock entries daily. It is your responsibility to note any changes or substitutions to your supervisor before the pay-period ends.
- If you are in danger of going over 40 hours in the pay-period, please notify your supervisor immediately.

Congratulations to those selected for Winter Crew! They include:

- Khaled Alsaqri
- Maleka Bascom
- Kesi Brathwaite
- Onon Erdenemandakh
- Kathleen Ericson
- Jenna Fazzino
- Josh Fritho
- David Justice
- Stacey Lockwood
- Dylan Marinelli
- Nick Moriello
- Eric Ott
- Matt Rusczyk
- Jessica Tyler

Birthdays

Alex Martinez  Nov. 10
Gabriella Bierwirth  Nov. 8
Simeon Williams  Nov. 17
Daniel Hebert  Nov. 17
Mitzie Martin  Nov. 11
Nicholas Streifel  Nov. 11
Dylan Marinelli  Nov. 17
Matthew Rusczyk  Nov. 2
Suddhodhan Buddha Priya  Nov. 25
Onon Erdenemandakh  Dec. 9

Holiday Social

On behalf of the Student Union Board of Governors, the Student Center & Student Activities/Leadership Development staffs, thank you *ALL* for attending this year’s Holiday Social on Dec. 8. It was a great success! Everything - from the SALSA dance lessons by CoLADA to the food, cookie decorating, ornament & snowflake making, games, pictures & more - was fabulous!

Much thanks to Scott Shea & Brianna Kirk for their overall vision, leadership & coordination of this program. Thank you to the Holiday Social Committee - including Joanna Ruggiero-Rivera, Caitlin Beaudry, Ashley Bullard & Megan Voelker - for their efforts & hard work in planning this fun filled event!

About 75-80 people attended.
Save the Date!!!

- **All Center Manager Training**
  - Mon. Jan. 11
  - 9 am-5 pm
  - TBD - plan for full day

- **Tech Training**
  - Mon. Jan. 11
  - 9 am-5 pm

- **Band & Concert Training**
  - Fri. Jan. 22
  - 9 am-10 am
  - 4 pm-5 pm

- **Information Desk Training**
  - Tues. Jan. 12
  - 9 am-4 pm

- **OM/CM Leadership Training**
  - Thurs. Jan. 13
  - Snow Date: Wednesday, Jan. 13
  - Snow Time: 11:30 am-3:30 pm

- **All Employee Training**
  - Fri. Jan. 22
  - 9 am-4 pm

  (unless it snows on Monday, Jan. 11 then this will include more than just band & concert training):

- Friendly reminder – connect with your supervisor ASAP if you have any conflicts! These trainings are MANDATORY!

See you around Maria!

As you may know already, Maria Santilli has left the Student Center. Well, not completely… just the department. She is now the Assistant Director of Student Activities/Leadership Development… right upstairs! I wanted to take a moment to say “Thank you!” to Maria for her years of service in support of students, and the campus, in building community through the workings of the Central Reservations Office, overseeing the Center Manager team and Setup Crew. She started with us in 2005 as a Graduate Intern, filled a role as an Assistant to the Director for a couple of years, and then has been the Assistant Director for the past eight years. Thankfully we’ll still see Maria’s smiling face, hear her calm reasoning voice and feel her leadership from her role in SA/LD. Best wishes Maria! See you around the Student Center!

-Otis Mamed

October STAR of the Month!

Joshua Fritho was nominated by his peers for the recognition of STAR because of his continuous and consistent acts of providing support to everyone. Josh goes above and beyond to help anyone who calls or visits the Information Desk. His calm and professional demeanor immediately puts others at ease. He is masterful at multi-tasking at the desk and always with a warm smile. Josh was instrumental this fall in providing his peers support as each learned the box office software and handled long lines of ticket patrons. October was particularly crazy at the Information Desk with several events, complicated ticket sales and daily accountability.

Josh is a great support to the Center Manager (CM) team. He recognizes the importance of their leadership role in the Student Center. He does everything he can to make sure information is passed timely to the CMs. Anything Josh can do to assist, he does. Josh Fritho provides good customer Service with a smile. He supports the team whenever he can, but can also Autonomously handle difficult Responsibilities. Please join us in recognizing Josh as the October STAR of the month.

November/December STAR of the Month!

Matt Rusczyk

Despite the fact that he is leaving us, Matt Rusczyk is far from “one foot out the door.” Matt has been incredibly helpful in the interviewing process for our new staff as well as instrumental during the process of choosing his replacement as Tech Operations Manager (OM). Matt has also been able to complete his regular duties including making sure nothing is pending on the tech project list, as well as completing his manager report and tech inventory on schedule. On top of that, he will be training the new OM until the end of December AND assist in planning January tech training with the new OM.

Matt has gone above & beyond to support the team this semester & in particular with troubleshooting the AV sound systems. He pitched in and helped with CAN’s “home for the holidays” concert when sound wasn’t working to its full potential. He helped out in Alumni (as he was walking through the building). Matt was wonderful and had great initiative that night. Please join us in recognizing Matt as the November/December STAR of the month.

Maria Santilli (left) and Kathy Poirier (right)
On behalf of the Student Center faculty, staff & interns, we greatly appreciate your efforts! For those graduating/moving on, we wish you the best of luck in your future endeavors! For those moving to another area, we look forward to working with you!