Dear Global House friends,

What a semester we had! We went on fun trips, discussed important and timely global issues at our Global Forums, threw cool parties, donated to and organized vigils for important causes and had valuable discussions in our FYE classes.

More importantly, we got to know each other and learn to live with each other. I am so very proud of our leadership group, the GAs, RAs, FYE and Floor mentors, for organizing these great events and being accessible and supportive to all our residents throughout.

During this holiday season, I hope you are as thankful for them as I am!

We hope that you enjoy the first issue of our Global House newsletter. Our goal with these newsletters is to remind you of all the great things we have accomplished together and to excite you for many more things to come. It is a quick snapshot of our learning community with a short summary and photos from our events. We also want to use the newsletter to feature some of our community leaders so that you can get to know them better.

As the semester is winding down and you are getting ready for the final exams, make sure you reach out to each other and enjoy the solidarity and friendships you have established this semester at Global House.

For some of the exchange students who are leaving UConn over the break, please know that you will be missed. Thank you for sharing your abroad experience with us and please come back and visit us again one day! You will always be part of the Global House alumni and will always be welcome here!

I wish all of you a wonderful holiday season. Take care, rest well and we’ll see you in the spring!

Stay Global,

Oksan Bayulgen
Global House Faculty Director

IN THIS ISSUE

Global Forum I: HOW DO YOU TRAVELENJOYRESPECT?

Global Forum II: NOT ALL WHO WANDER ARE LOST: MAKING YOUR MARK IN THE WORLD

Social Events:
- Labor Day Picnic
- Big E
- Somalia Vigil
AND MUCH MORE!!!
What a wonderful way to start the semester! Our first event is becoming a Global House tradition. Snacks and games by Mirror Lake are the best way to spend Labor Day weekend!! One of my favorites is always the soccer game. This year Sercan was taken down again, let’s maintain the tradition next year!!! Check out some of our photos!!
Credit: Kafré O’Connell
The Global Citizen Festival has been happening for three years now in Central Park in New York City. To get tickets, you must participate in various tasks such as signing petitions and writing emails to those in government that take action on issues such as Poverty and Girls’ Education among others. At the Festival, there were different performers (like Green Day and Stevie Wonder) along with celebrities (like Jane Goodall and Hugh Jackman).
Our first Global Forum of the semester kicked off our Sustainable Development theme for the 2017-2018 academic year. The talented FYE Mentors put together a wonderful presentation about the role we can all play as tourists.

Sustainable Tourism is about respecting the culture and resources of our destinations. Students shared interesting stories about their travels, stories they read about and their other ideas around the theme.

One emerging topic centered around the environment. While we should be conscious of our footprint as we travel around the world, there are also extraordinary innovations around this issue. Remember the story about the tree bridge that allows visits to the rain forest “from above,” so as to not trample on the fauna and flora on the ground?!!
Trip to the BIG E

Halloween Party!!!
Experience studying and working abroad expands students’ global awareness and enhances the resume, too! Given our community’s international focus and interest, this Global Forum featured a variety of speakers under the theme of “International Careeers.” Emily and LuAnn talked about different opportunities for current students, from online resources and opportunities, to useful courses and funding sources. Our senior GH members shared their stories about study, travel and internships abroad. The goal was to get our freshmen excited about different opportunities and provide planning tools for the future, so we can truly “Go Global”!!!

Invited Speakers:

Emily Fiagbedzi, UConn Center for Career Development
LuAnn Saunders-Kanabay, Office of National Scholarships & Fellowships
Matthew Byanyima, Global House Member
Srishti Banerjee, Global House Member
Wawa Gatheru, Global House Member
ON 14 OCTOBER 2017, A MASSIVE BLAST CAUSED BY A TRUCK BOMBING IN MOGADISHU, THE CAPITAL OF SOMALIA, KILLED AT LEAST 300 PEOPLE AND INJURED MANY MORE.

TERROR ATTACKS SUCH AS THIS ONE ARE ALL TOO COMMON AS OF LATE, AND UNFORTUNATELY, THE NEWS MEDIA IS SLOWER TO RESPOND WHEN SUCH EVENTS TAKE PLACE IN THE NON-WESTERN WORLD.

CURRENT AND PAST GLOBAL HOUSE LEADERS, MATTHEW BYANYIMA, RICHMOND APORE AND WAWA GATHERU ORGANIZED A VIGIL IN SOLIDARITY OF THE SOMALI VICTIMS.

AT THE EVENT, SEVERAL STUDENTS SHARED THEIR THOUGHTS AND EXPERIENCES SURROUNDING THE RECENT ATTACK AND EXPRESSED THEIR SUPPORT TO ALL HERE AND ABROAD.
Global House came together in solidarity for the victims of hurricane Maria and raised $353 in 3 days!!!! Srishti, Cayleigh and Kafré led the community in the effort and together we bought a little bit of everything on the “most wanted” list of goods provided by the sponsors of the Love Puerto Rico event. We got everything from feminine pads and diapers to blankets and power cords. Thanks to Brendan Carroll for helping to unload so we could all make it in time for the game!!!
Caira Ward
I am 3rd year honors student double majoring in HDFS and Africana Studies, with a minor in Urban & Community Studies from Norwalk, CT. In the future I hope to obtain my Ph. D. in Social Work and possibly teach in higher ed, or maybe open my own private practice. I currently a research assistant for a professor in the HDFS department, and the Secretary of the organization, Sisters inspiring Sisters, in the AACC. I've previously volunteered in other groups such as America Reads, UConn Connects, and attended an alternative break for homelessness in Boston, MA. As an extrovert I enjoy socializing with friends and meeting new people. I like to keep busy with exercise, attending educational/social events, shopping, and traveling.

“Fun Fact: I hope to visit Japan someday and possibly backpack across Europe”

Sam Lindquist
My name is Sam and I’m a sophomore here at UConn majoring in Pre-teaching and minoring in American Sign Language and Deaf Culture. This is my second year in Global House and I live on the third floor. I really love traveling and want to do it whenever I can- I went to Australia last summer and am going to the UK over winter break. I also really really love all things Disney and go every year!

Wawa Gatheru
Wawa Gatheru is a sophomore pursuing a degree in Environmental Studies at the University of Connecticut, with a minor in Environmental Economics and Policy. At UConn, she currently interns at the Office of Environmental Policy and serves as the Student Services Chairwoman of the Undergraduate Student Government. In addition, she serves as an FYE Mentor and volunteer for SOS Food Recovery and Cross-Cultural Connections. She is particularly interested in the intersection of environmental activism and food sovereignty, previously serving as a student coordinator in the Husky Nutrition Program and currently acting as a research assistant in the Nutrition Department. Her long-term goals include becoming an Environmental Foreign Service officer for USAID, a goal that was solidified during her year-long fellowship with the U.S. State Department in Thailand. In obtaining this goal, she also hopes to take part in the redefinition of culturally-competent, sustainable environmental development.
Global House Leadership 2017-2018

Brendan Carroll
Brendan Carroll is a sophomore pursuing a degree in Management Information Systems at the University of Connecticut. At UConn, Brendan participates as a Learning Community Leader in Global House and represents his residents as a Senator in UConn’s Undergraduate Student Government. On campus, he is in his fourth year, interning for Cigna Health Insurance in the company’s Information Protection department. Brendan hopes to build a career in cybersecurity and business management. His interests include current events, cybersecurity, music, and photography.

Ray Guerrero
My name is Ray and I’m a junior with a double major in Structural Biology & Biophysics and Human Rights, and a tentative major in Physiology and Neurobiology. On campus, I live on the third floor as the RA, but my home is in Danbury, CT. A few of the clubs I’m (at least partially) involved in are Medical Humanitarian Society, which I’ll be able to go to Brazil and volunteer with at a clinic with this winter, French Club, and the Dominican Students Association (trust me, I know I don’t look Dominican). After my undergrad, I’m planning on joining the Peace Corps before (hopefully) going to medical school. In the future I would love to practice as a physician (probably in emergency medicine or pediatrics) and volunteer with humanitarian-focused NGOs like Doctors Without Borders or the Red Cross/Red Crescent. Some favorite books are 1984, Brave New Work, The Stranger, and Oryx and Crake. Some favorite movies are Interstellar, Fight Club, and First They Killed My Father. Some of my favorite shows are Game of Thrones, Mr. Robot, and Les Revenants.
Global House Faculty Director

Oksan Bayulgen received her Ph.D. from the University of Texas at Austin in 2003. She teaches a range of comparative politics courses, including introduction to comparative politics, politics of Russia and the former Soviet Union, comparative democratization, foreign policy of Russia, politics of oil, introduction to non-western politics and sustainable energy. Her research focuses on the political economy of energy and democratization in the post-Soviet and the Middle East regions. She has conducted extensive field-work in Azerbaijan, Russia, Norway, Kazakhstan, and Turkey. She is currently working on a project analyzing the politics of renewable energy development in Turkey.

Global House Graduate Assistants

Sercan Canbolat received his B.A. from Izmir University of Economics in Turkey, with a double major in International Relations and European Union and Economics. Then at Bilkent University, he received an M.A. in International Relations. At UConn, Sercan is pursuing his Ph.D. in Political Science. His research focus is on Political Psychology, Elite Decision-Making, Non-Western Political Leadership and Foreign Policy, International Relations of the Middle East, US Foreign Policy towards MENA and the Asian Pivot.

Gabriela Ramalho Tafoya received her B.A. in Economics from SUNY Purchase College and an M.A. in Quantitative Methods from Columbia University, both in New York. At UConn, Gabby is pursuing a Ph.D. in Political Science. Her research interests are in the Political Economy of Latin America and the Caribbean, Social Policy for Poverty and Inequality, and Democracy and Representation.
Global House

Global Citizenship Award

2017-2018

Description:

The award, sponsored by UConn Global Affairs, is intended to recognize 2 full-time enrolled Global House Learning Community students (one freshmen and one sophomore) who embody and exemplify the values and practices of internationalism, multiculturalism and civic engagement.

Amount:

$ 500 each

Criteria:

The award will go to 2 students who:

1. understand the interdependence and interconnectedness in the world and has a sense of their own role as world citizens
2. strive to be well informed on global issues
3. participate in the community at a range of levels from the local to the global
4. demonstrate strong collaborative, problem solving, listening and consensus building skills
5. consistently demonstrate a sense of voluntarism
6. exhibit leadership skills
7. are willing to act to make the world a more equitable and sustainable place
8. respect and value diversity

Application:

Please send the following application materials to

Oksan.bayulgen@uconn.edu by Monday, Feb 5th 5 pm.

- resume
- 500-word statement explaining why you think you should be considered for this award
- 2 letters of support (250-word) from fellow Global House residents and/or alumni.

Announcement:

The winners will be announced and awarded by April 27, 2018.
Stay Warm and Stay Global!!!