FEATURES

University hosts 'Earth Day and Wellness Fair'

By Lexi White
Features Editor

The air was warm and the sun shined bright; program members on campus said it was a perfect day to appreciate the Earth.

The Earth Day and Wellness Fair was hosted outside of Connecticut Hall by the Office of Sustainability, the Wellbeing Center, Buley Library and Health Services.

"We are trying to make students aware of how important Earth Day is," graduate student Asifa Zamin who works as an intern for Health Services said. "That's why we arranged an information session with trivia."

At the Health Services table, students were able to spin the wheel, answer a question and be awarded with candy. Health Services offers students screenings and appointments for their physical, emotional and social needs.

"We talk about sensitive issues like STDs, nutrition and physical activity with the college students," Zamin said. "We want them to be aware of how important these topics are and this is our main focus."

Those who observed the Health Services table were given brochures and pamphlets about how to stay healthy while attending the university.

"We always ask students to tell other people about our message," Zamin said. "We are seeing so much progress which is the most important part."

Environmental systems and sustainability major Emma Josmith, a sophomore, was running the Office of Sustainability's table. They take all the untouched food from Connecticut Hall and donate it to various communities in New Haven.

"Right now, we're raising awareness for the program we have since we are getting close to our end of the year mobile drive," Josmith said. "We're trying to inform student about where they can donate."

Josmith works as an intern for the Office of Sustainability and primarily helps to run the Swap Shop and the Thrifty Owl.

"I'm just excited to get the word out," Josmith said. "We're getting a lot of signups from students and that's really exciting."

Josmith said she thinks it is important for students to know about what the Office of Sustainability has to offer.

"There are a lot of programs on camps that I feel like students don't know too much about, so it'd be great to let students know that we're here for them," Josmith said.

The STEM Librarian Diana Hellyar was informing students of the several programs within Buley Library, specifically the Makerspace and the Career Closet.

In the Makerspace, students can utilize the crafty materials available to them like sewing machines to mend clothing. In the Career Closet, donated professional attire is given to students who need it for job interviews or internship opportunities.

"This is important for students to know because they might not know what is available to them," Hellyar said. "Specifically with our sewing machines. Students may know how to sew, but just not have a sewing machine available to them."

The Wellbeing Center had graduate student Victoria Ibitoie as their host for the event. Students were able to take sunscreen lip balms, sunscreen lotion, sunglasses and candy if they stopped by the table.

In addition, students could take a quiz to determine what they need to focus on within themselves.

"It allows you to sit down and form a plan to really be intentional with taking care of yourself," Ibitoie said. "It's so important for your overall well-being so you don't feel so overwhelmed."



PHOTOS | LILY RAND

Graduate student Victoria Ibitoie hosting the Wellbeing Center's table at the Earth Day and Wellness Fair.



Students and faculty observing Health Services' and Buley Library's tables at the event.

Anime Society Club brings students together

By Robby Richitelli
Contributor

Anime brought this group together, but it was their similar interests among many passions that kept them together and strengthened their bond.

Club secretary music major Shirley Zullo, a senior, has held the position for three years and said she has made many close connections through the club.

"It's a very special place to me in terms of meeting people on campus that won't judge you for liking certain things cause everyone in the room is just as bad," Zullo said.

The Anime Society Club was a great place for her to meet a lot of other people that even though they do not have the same major or classes.

"We can still come together and watch fun shows and talk about video games and other things we all seem to like," Zullo said.

Zullo said she made many friends through the club that she is close with even outside of campus grounds. These friends have taken her out to concerts and all have a great time together.

She said she is especially close with many of the original members now, who will either regularly or occasionally show up to club meetings.

Sociology major John Alston, a senior, has been a member for about three semesters and regards the club as another safe space of his on campus and impactful on his comfortability on campus.

Alston said the club is a great place to make new friends and had made many close connections with people who have similar interests, whom he also sees in different clubs he is a part of on campus.

"I know I could go somewhere to get recommendations," Alston said. "If there's an anime or an event or a manga to buy, I know I have people to go with."

Amora Russell is a newer member and has been a part of the club for about four months. She attends nearly every meeting.

"It's fun; it's very interactive and we have very funny commentary, so yeah it's a great time," Russell said.

Prior to the club Russell said she was a bit more quiet and reserved and was not particularly involved in any clubs.

"At the beginning of my sophomore year I kind of decided to venture out and look for clubs to partake in," Russell said. "And this piqued my interest, so it's been a fun place for me to hangout and chill."

Russell said the club has introduced her to many different anime, recently finding out about the anime 'Monster' by Naoki Urasawa.

"I've been at home bingeing it; going back and watching the episodes because it's pretty lore heavy and interesting to me," Russell said.

She said everyone in the Anime Society Club has given her a space to let loose, unwind and enjoy her hobbies of anime and in general.

Owls Decide: What is your favorite class?

By Lexi White
Features Editor



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"Human emotions because you get to learn about how it works and affects people differently."
-Psychology major Valerie Torres, a junior



"Accommodating individuals with physical disabilities because we have a hands-on experience."
-Special education major Jack Wargo, a junior



"My global community class because it's very impactful and important."
-Public health major Sophia Khan, a junior



"Race and racism because it talks about how color plays a specific role across the country."
-Criminology and criminal justice major Sayed Chowdhury, a junior



"School based experience in special education because we get the experience of teaching."
-Special education major Katy Hammell, a senior



"My software development class because I enjoy coding."
-Computer science major Hersh Patel, a junior