

PROYECTO ♦ COMUNIDAD

CONNECTING THE CLASSROOM & THE COMMUNITY

SHADOW PROGRAM



PROYECTO COMUNIDAD was established in 2000 by Connecticut College's Department of Hispanic Studies with the assistance of a grant from the Holleran Center for Community Action & Public Policy. The project is directed by Professor Frank Graziano.

The SHADOW PROGRAM is sponsored by the Department of Hispanic Studies in cooperation with Career Enhancing Life Skills, the Office of Volunteers for Community Service, La Unidad, Unity House, the Holleran Center for Community Action & Public Policy, and the Dean of Multicultural Affairs.



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♦ **THE COURSE** Hispanic Studies 228, also known as Proyecto Comunidad, offers the opportunity to complement academic study and to enhance cultural understanding through service learning in the Hispanic community of New London. Six hours of service are required weekly. The service-learning focus of the course is complemented by seminar meetings, readings, written assignments, and frequent field trips. The four-credit course is taught in Spanish. Placements are made in cooperation with the Office of Volunteers for Community Service and community partners.

♦ **THE NLPD VOLUNTEER PROJECT** Fluently bilingual students, faculty, and staff serve as on-call INTERPRETERS & LIAISONS TO THE HISPANIC COMMUNITY for the New London Police Department. In this capacity they accompany the Crime Prevention Officer on nondangerous calls involving Hispanics who do not speak English. This project is sponsored by the Department of Hispanic Studies in cooperation with the New London Police Department and La Unidad.

♦ **THE SHADOW PROGRAM** Students accompany a range of professionals during the course of a typical workday. The pairings are made at student request in accord with academic and professional interests. During a half-day or full-day shadowing of their hosts, students explore career interests, meet potential mentors, conduct research, gain insights into issues pertinent to the Hispanic community, and envision practical applications of classroom learning. This program is available to Hispanic Studies and Latin American Studies majors and minors, to members of La Unidad, and to native speakers of Spanish. The program is sponsored by the Department of Hispanic Studies in cooperation with Career Enhancing Life Skills, the Office of Volunteers for Community Service, La Unidad, Unity House, the Holleran Center for Community Action & Public Policy, and the Dean of Multicultural Affairs



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INSTRUCTIONS FOR STUDENTS

- 1) Select a host and an alternate from the SHADOW PROGRAM roster, which is included in this packet. These selections should be made on the basis of your academic and/or career interests.
- 2) Complete the SHADOW PROGRAM REQUEST FORM, which is also included in this packet, and send to CELS. CELS will make the initial contact with the host.
- 3) If your request is approved by the host, CELS will send you two copies of a confirmation. Sign both copies and return one to CELS. You may then contact the host directly to introduce yourself and make arrangements for your visit.

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SHADOW PROGRAM ♦ REQUEST FORM

Please send this completed form by campus mail to: Deborah Dreher, Director, CELS. If you prefer to use email, send all of the requested information to Deborah Dreher at: dvdre@conncoll.edu. Please use "Shadow Program Request" as the subject line.

1)

YOUR NAME:

EXTENSION:

EMAIL:

CAMPUS BOX:

CELL PHONE (if any):

MAJOR AND CLASS:

NATIVE SPANISH SPEAKER:

YES

NO

2)

REQUESTED HOST, FIRST CHOICE:

REQUESTED HOST, SECOND CHOICE:

OVCS generally provides transportation when needed to host sites in New London. Transportation to out-of-town sites is the responsibility of the student.

DO YOU HAVE YOUR OWN TRANSPORTATION?

YES

NO

3)

PREFERRED DATE RANGE FOR YOUR VISIT:

Please give a two-week range, beginning at least two weeks from the date that you submit this form. Your preferred date range might be altered by the host. After CELS makes the initial contact, the actual date of the visit will be arranged by you and the host directly. Visits are for one half or one full workday.

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SHADOW PROGRAM HOSTS

NICHOLAS F. BELLANTONI, Ph.D.
Connecticut State Archaeologist
University of Connecticut
Storrs

The State Archeologist is generally working in the field; student shadows would likely accompany him in this field work.



JOAN BENNETT, Vice President of Human Resources
Lawrence & Memorial Hospital
New London

A variety of opportunities are available at Lawrence and Memorial Hospital. Interested students should explain their interests to Joan Bennett, who will assist in identifying appropriate hosts and arranging visits. See also the other L & M opportunities listed below.



WILLIAM EDWARDS, SR.
Crime Prevention Officer
New London Police Department



JUANA ELIAS
Spanish Teacher
East Lyme High School



ANNA B. JAMES, Principal
Edgerton Elementary School
New London

Edgerton is a dual-language elementary school.



MICHAEL P. LAJOIE, Warden
Corrigan-Radgowski Correctional Center
Uncasville



ALICIA L. LENAHAN, Esq.
Executive Director
The CASA Project
Worcester, MA

The CASA Project recruits, screens, trains, and supervises Court Appointed Special Advocates who represent children removed from their homes due to abuse or neglect. Visits with Alicia Lenahan are generally co-hosted by Judge Perez (see below).



TEDMAN D. MARTINEZ ONOFRE
Guidance Counselor
New London High School



CLAIRE MATTHEWS
Executive Director
Mystic Arts Center

This host is ideal for students who are interested in arts management or in the operation of small not-for-profit organizations. Visits may be coordinated with teacher-training programs that are offered at the Center. In September, 2006, the Center is hosting a major exhibition sponsored by the Latin Network for the Visual Arts.



SHAWN MAWHINEY
Director of Communications (Public Relations)
The William W. Backus Hospital
Norwich



KEVIN P. MCMAHON
Superior Court Judge
New London



RICARDO OCHOA, DVM, Ph.D. ACVP
Executive Director, Pathology
Pfizer Pharmaceutical Research and Development
Safety Sciences, Groton

This host is particularly appropriate for science majors, and for students interested in community service. Dr. Ochoa is board president for Centro de la Comunidad.



LUIS G. PEREZ
Juvenile Court Judge
Dudley, MA

Visits with Judge Perez are generally co-hosted by Alicia Lenahan (see above).



IRENE SCHIENBERG, RNC
Nurse Manager, Inpatient Psychiatry
Lawrence & Memorial Hospital
New London

This opportunity is for a semester-long volunteer placement at the hospital's psychiatric unit. It requires an on-campus interview prior to contacting the host site, and, if approved, an interview at the hospital. The selected student will assist with patient activities, socialization, and monitoring. This site is open to psychology majors only.



MIRIAM TORRES-THORBURN
Executive Director
Centro de la Comunidad
New London



NANCY VELAZQUEZ, RN
Nurse Manager, OB/GYN Clinic
Lawrence & Memorial Hospital
New London



MARY BETH WAGNER, Court Interpreter II
Adult & Juvenile Courts
New London