

# News Release

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Board of Governors for Higher Education  
Department of Higher Education  
State of Connecticut



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## **College Students & Staff Honored for Community Service**

Hartford, April 9 — Higher Education Commissioner Valerie F. Lewis will present five 2007 Higher Education Community Service Awards to Connecticut college students and staff tomorrow evening (Tuesday, April 10 at 6:00 pm.) at the Hartford Marriott Rocky Hill at Corporate Ridge in Rocky Hill.

Commissioner Lewis will present the annual awards with State Representative William R. Dyson, chair of the Connecticut Commission on Community Service which co-sponsors this event with the Connecticut Department of Higher Education to honor student and campus service to communities.

This year, 21 Connecticut colleges submitted 56 nominations for the three award categories of *Student*, *Student Group* and *Special Award* for projects led by faculty and staff. Recipients are selected based on their ability to create projects which distinctly help individuals, community groups or environmental causes; incorporate originality and unique approaches to community service; substantially raise student participation; promote diversity; and address urban problems.

This year's *Student Award Recipients* are:

- **Meghan Hewitt**, a student at **Connecticut College** for her work in creating the Science Educators Group which encourages college students to enter teaching.
- **Gavan Meehan**, a third-year student at the **University of Connecticut School of Law** for motivating students to consider careers in public interest law.

The *Student Group Award Recipients* are:

- **Yale University Undergraduates at Connecticut Hospice** who volunteer at Connecticut Hospice in Branford.
- **American Humanics Student Association at Eastern Connecticut State University** whose work strengthens campus ties to the community.

The *Special Award Recipient* is:

- **Pam Bellows**, Public Services Librarian at **Northwestern Connecticut Community College** for her work with AIDS patients in Connecticut and Central America.

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