



Eastern Connecticut State University

NEWS

May 7, 2008

For Immediate Release

Contact: Dwight Bachman

Public Relations Officer

(860) 465-5114 or Bachman@easternct.edu

Edward Osborn, Director of University Relations

(860) 465-5043 or Osborne@easternct.edu

Timothy Talley, Public Relations Assistant

(860) 465-0686 or talleyt@stu.easternct.edu

Eastern Students Offer Insight in Crisis Management Plan

Willimantic, Conn. — In response to recent tragedies on the nation’s college campuses, the public relations crisis management class at Eastern Connecticut State University held a student forum on April 23 to allow students to talk directly to the administration about their safety concerns. The on-campus forum for students, faculty, and helped raised awareness and the consciousness of the Eastern community on a variety of crises from fire and food poisoning to violent attacks or chemical and biological threats.

“We hope that the summit allowed participants to interact comfortably and emphasize the importance of opening minds and dialogue about responsiveness and preparedness,” said Hillary Poudrette of Brooklyn, a senior majoring in communications, who is taking the class. “The class created a student opinion-based report and submitted it to the administration for consideration in the university’s crisis management plan.”

“The kids handled themselves very well,” said Olugbenga Ayeni, professor of communication at Eastern. “President Núñez and I were impressed by their professionalism and commitment to the class. I would love to make this an annual forum, and hope to do it again next year if I am teaching the class.”

For more information contact Hillary Poudrette at poudretteh@stu.easternct.edu or Olugbenga Ayeni at (860) 465-0240 or e-mail him at ayenio@easternct.edu.

PHOTO CAPTION:

President Núñez addresses students, faculty, administration and campus allies at the forum.

###

Eastern Connecticut State University is part of the Connecticut State University (CSU) system and is the state's public liberal arts university. ECSU serves more than 5,000 students each year on its Willimantic campus.

It is the policy of Eastern Connecticut State University to ensure equal access to its events. If you are an individual with a disability and will need accommodations for this event, please contact the Office of University Relations at (860) 465-5735.

#