

OFF-CAMPUS STUDENT UNION

SAUS

April 2009
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Welcome

The office of Student Activities and Union Services (SAUS) is working towards making the SUNY New Paltz community a more engaging place for our off-campus population. We have started a new organization, the Off-Campus Student Union (OCSU) which is dedicated to identifying and addressing the needs of the off-campus student population. The SAUS office is located in room 209 of the Student Union, to find out more about our office go to www.newpaltz.edu/sub. For more information pertaining to off campus students visit www.newpaltz.edu/sub/commuters.html. For resources that you, an off campus student, might find useful check out www.newpaltz.edu/offcampus. Instead of being on facebook on your spare time check out one of these three websites. You can also stop by a meeting to see what it is all about. The meetings for the Off-Campus Student Union are on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2-4 in Student Union room 405. These meeting will be to discuss future events, to address student concerns and to meet other SUNY New Paltz students.

LIVE OFF
CAMPUS?

WHAT CAN
OCSU
DO FOR YOU?

Join the facebook
group,
attend a meeting,
or one of our
events!

OCSU members
volunteering at the 2nd
Annual College Clean-
Up Day that took place
on April 2nd.



Meet the President



Full Name: Susan Li

Year: Junior

Major: Sociology

Minor: Women's Studies

Hometown: Queens, NYC, but I haven't lived there in almost 4 years. I consider Ulster County my home now.

Distance from Campus: I'm not sure how many blocks I live away from campus, but it's about a 10 minute walk. I live on Main Street right next to the Water Street Market.

SAUS: What have you accomplished so far as president?

Susan: "I've only been President since the beginning of this semester. Josh Gorfein, the Graduate Assistant of Student Activities and Union Services, is really the one that has gotten things rolling for the club, along with the rest of the SAUS staff, so shout out to you guys! =>) I've submitted our charter to the Student Association and have done a lot of public relations type things

like designing most of our flyers and putting them up around campus and maintaining our Facebook group (which I keep updated so everything is current). I hold weekly meetings every Tuesday and Thursday from 2-4 PM in the Student Union Building (SUB) in room 405. Josh and Mike Patterson, the Director of SAUS, planned our Off-Campus Student Appreciation week that took place March 2-6th.

I organized the Resume Workshop with Dawn from the Career Resource Center for that week. I wanted to let the off-campus student population know about the services that are offered here at SUNY New Paltz. My hope was to get students on track with making or updating their resumes in time for applying for internships and summer jobs."

SAUS: What do you hope to accomplish as president?

Susan: "My hope is for more off-campus students to get involved in our group and for them to take advantage of all the services and the events that are offered to them. Off-campus students make up roughly 60 percent of the students here at SUNY New Paltz and I feel they aren't catered to. We all pay mandatory activities fees and rarely take advantage of the free events on campus, such as Saturday Nights at the Terrace. My goal for the semester is to put together a petition for an off-campus student lounge so the administration is much more likely to take our suggestions seriously if we have numbers backing this proposal. I hope to have a letter drafted up by the beginning of April and ready to be passed around for students to sign. I was surprised to find out that the school didn't even have a commuter lounge; even the small SUNY School I transferred from had a commuter lounge.

Continued...

I feel off-campus students deserve a space of their own as they don't have the luxury of wandering back to their residence halls to relax. With the new construction that has taken place, there is no longer a Purple Lounge, and so we have lost a lounge on campus for off-campus students. I hope other off-campus students feel as strongly as I do about this issue and will take an active role in making things happen to better the experiences of off-campus students at our school. Once we have a few more members, I would eventually like to hold end of the month lunch meetings, where I would also like to celebrate birthdays of off-campus students for that month. From being Resident Assistant (RA) in the past, I know that some RAs will celebrate their residents' birthday by sending them a card or doing something small for them. Off-campus students living right in town miss out on that, so I would like to do something small for them."

"My goal for the semester is to put together a petition for an off-campus student lounge"

SAUS: Is there anything else you would like to share with the readers?

Susan: "Join our Facebook group "Off-Campus Student Union." Facebook me and I can send you an invite. If you have any ideas, suggestions, or concerns, feel free to e-mail me at sli61@newpaltz.edu and please put "OCSU" in the subject line."

Meet the Vice President

Full Name: Donnie Martin

Year: Junior

Major: Adolescent Education
Social Studies

Minor: History

Hometown: Suffolk, VA though I've lived in Dutchess County for almost 3 years now, so this is home.

Distance from Campus: I live 25 miles away in Fishkill; it takes me half an hour to get to campus.



Continued...

SAUS: What have you accomplished so far as vice president?

Donnie: "I've only been the official Vice President for a few weeks. If it weren't for our President Susan, I don't think that I would even be involved. Once it was explained to me how many students live off campus, and we had a club I had to get involved. As far as accomplishments as the Vice President, my claim to fame would have to be our involvement as a club in the 2nd Annual College Clean-Up day. My goal with that is getting every student, on- or off-campus, to know that the OCSU is here and we want to have a voice at SUNY New Paltz. So look for us there!"

SAUS: What do you hope to accomplish as president?

Donnie: "Just like Susan, I want the people reading this, and the ones that are not, to GET INVOLVED. We have a huge number of off-campus students attending SUNY New Paltz and we all paid \$200 this year in activity fees, let us get together, and spend that money on US! I hope with the help of Susan and our advisor Josh, who we like to call "Greg", to get people involved. I would also like to get off-campus students a space; I don't care if it's an empty closet in the basement. Off-campus students just like on campus students want some where to chill out when we are on break. Finally, I'd like to create a "voice" for off-campus students. We're here, yet it feels like we are supposed to be seen and not heard from, I think we have created that image by going to class and leaving. Let's change that, let's get out there, get involved and make use of all that money we're spending on our college education."

SAUS: Is there anything else you would like to share with the readers?

Donnie: "Join the club. Come to our meetings. Like Susan said they are Tuesday's and Thursday's from 2-4. Last week we played Pictionary. It was great. I promise you we'll have fun; it's what I do. So join our Facebook group "Off-Campus Student Union." Facebook me and I can have Susan send an invite, in case you don't want to be Susan's Facebook friend. If you have any ideas, suggestions, or concerns, or a funny joke, feel free to e-mail me at N02006343@newpaltz.edu."

Important Reminders

- Weekly Meetings: Thursdays 2-4pm in Student Union room 405.
- Join the Facebook group: [Off-Campus Student Union](#).

OFF-CAMPUS STUDENT UNION



MEETING

Thursdays
2 – 4 PM
SUB 405

Contact Info:
e-mail Susan Li
sli61@newpaltz.edu

please put "OCSU" in the subject line
Join our Facebook group for updates on
events!