Over the past year, I have been extremely lucky to serve Honors Council and the UConn campus as the Environmental Committee Chair. I have met motivated, enthusiastic students who I am sure are going to continue on to make big waves in whatever proverbial pond they find themselves in. The people I have had the pleasure to work with will most certainly change the world for the better. Together with their help, the Environmental Committee has had an extremely eventful year.

This year, the Environmental Committee had its fair share of accolades. In October, Honors Council attended the National Collegiate Honors Consortium in Phoenix, Arizona. There, I had the pleasure of presenting the Environmental Committee’s work, and the successes of running an environmental organization through Honors. This spring, the Environmental Committee was also recognized by the UConn community when we were awarded the Student Life Award for Advocacy for our campus-wide shower timer installation initiative.

The Environmental Committee also had a very productive year on campus, as we strove to promote environmental awareness and green thinking. We ran showings of two documentary films, The Future of Food, and Bullshit, both of which had great turnouts! After Bullshit, Carol Auer from the UConn Plant Science Department led a discussion on plant biodiversity and risk assessment with a group of nearly 50 students! Other events held over the past year include the semesterly community service trips to Horizon Wings, a birds of prey sanctuary in Ashford, where we get to assist in the maintenance of the animal’s shelters and habitats. Other events we ran include a mid-winter Tie-Dye event to raise funds for the Connecticut Trust for Public Land, as well as a make-your-own Trail mix station at UConn’s annual Earth Day Spring Fling. Ultimately, it was a very rewarding semester, and I think I can speak for my committee when I say that I can’t wait for next year!

Daniel Violette
Environmental Committee Chair