

President's Report

Dr. Radenka Maric

University of Connecticut
Board of Trustees Meeting
25 September 2024

UConn



Strategic Plan Update

ENVISIONING 2034

Strategic Goals

Promoting Holistic Student Success

Expanding Research Impact

Powering a Thriving Connecticut

Areas of Focus

Student Success Journey

Excellence in Research, Innovation, and Engagement

Wellness of People and Planet

Seven World-Class Campuses, One Flagship University

Husky Pride and Resilience

A Stronger, More Inclusive University

UConn

Strategic Plan Timeline



2023 Agree

- ✓ Board unanimously approves 10-year strategic plan, first plan in 25 years

First-year updates to be presented to the Board in December 2024



2024 Prepare

- ✓ Publish strategic plan and launch website
- ✓ Determine key performance indicators (KPIs)
- ✓ Complete strategic planning at regional campuses
- ✓ Prioritize institutional-level initiatives related to Envisioning 2034



2025-2034 Achieve

- () Track initiatives, address challenges, celebrate milestones
- () Track KPIs, address challenges, publish annual report
- () Continually assess plan for relevance

ENVISIONING 2034

Progress toward Sustainability Goals

- Our carbon emissions have decreased even as our campus has grown.
- To accelerate our progress, we are:
 - ✓ Building new partnerships
 - ✓ Establishing a dedicated sustainability academic unit
 - ✓ Aggressively pursuing conservation and efficiency measures
 - ✓ Launching major projects



Carbon Mitigation Projects: Storrs Campus

> 28,000 Tons/Year Combined
Emissions Reduction Expected

Clean Energy Infrastructure

Fuel Cell Installations at IPB and Putnam

In construction

> 15,000 tons/year reduction

South Campus Geothermal Utility Plant

In construction

>2,000 tons/year reduction

Efficiency and Conservation

Energy Conservation Projects

Lighting, steam trap surveys & repairs,
energy audits, etc.

> 9,000 tons/year reduction

Energy Services Performance Contract

Phase 2, in planning

> 1,500 tons/year reduction



Clean Transit

EV Charging Infrastructure and Services Upgrade

In construction

Hydrogen Fuel Dispenser

In construction Spring 2025

Impact of Installing 8 Fuel Cells on the Storrs Campus



Four (4) FuelCell Energy's SOFC
Generators (total **1 MW**)

Image credit:
<https://www.fuelcellenergy.com/platform/solid-oxide-fuel-cell-platforms>



Four (4) HyAxiom's PAFC
Generators (total **1.8 MW**)

Image credit:
<https://hyaxiom-staging.netlify.app/our-solutions/fuel-cell-technology/>

Emission Reductions
> 15,000 Tons/Year

High Purity CO₂ Capture
Fuel Cell Process By-Product
> 8,600 Tons/Year
Value: >\$260,000/ year

Carbon Negative @ UConn

- Capture and utilize CO₂ from UConn's Co-GEN plant
- Utilize high-purity CO₂ from fuel cells

**Capability: >30,000
Tons/Year**

Additional efforts are underway across the University to reduce carbon emissions and meet our strategic goals.

Partnerships for Connecticut

Sustainability Summit

September 23, 2024



Eversource and UConn sign a memorandum of understanding during the Sustainable Clean Energy Summit in the Student Union Theater on Sept. 23, 2024. Left to right: Tilak Subrahmanian, Eversource; Stan Nolan, Facilities Operations; UConn President Radenka Maric; Penni McLean-Conner, Eversource Energy.

UConn Forum:

Economic Engine for a Thriving Connecticut

October 31, 2024

Speakers:

Welcome: **Rodney Baker**, Tribal Council Chairman, Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation

Keynote: **Daniel O’Keefe**, Commissioner, Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD)

- Panels
- Networking



Connecticut Higher Education Financial Sustainability Advisory Board

Established July 1, 2024

Convened August 27 and September 9, 2024

Focus: Effectiveness, Efficiency, and Accountability in Higher Ed

HIGHER EDUCATION FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY
August 27th Advisory Board Meeting



Co-Chairs



Jeffrey Beckham
OPM Secretary



Senator Catherine Osten
Appropriations Co-Chair



Representative Toni Walker
Appropriations Co-Chair

Established by PA 24-81, the **Higher Education Financial Sustainability Advisory Board** is charged with meeting with public higher education institution and UConn Health Center administrators:

- to accept and review financial and related reports and
- to discuss (a) barriers to meeting state workforce needs, (b) developing economic growth, and (c) achieving or maintaining affordable tuition.

About NCHEMS



The National Center for Higher Education Management Systems (NCHEMS) is a postsecondary education research and advising organization that unlocks data and evidence to help states, systems, and institutions design policies and practices to meet their goals.



Since 1969, we've been engaging higher education leaders and state and system-level policy makers, providing the insights and intelligence they need to create and sustain successful higher education institutions and systems.

OPM has hired an external consultant, National Center for Higher Education Management Systems (NCHEMS). The consultant reported at the Sept. 9 meeting (screenshot left).

UConn and UConn Health data requested by the board include:

- Detailed and disaggregated financial reports (expenses, revenue sources)
- Restricted and unrestricted fund balances by organizational units
- Deficiency and mitigation plans
- Personnel counts and vacancies by bargaining units and organizational units
- Salary data
- UCH patient utilization plans
- UConn enrollment and housing plans
- Graduate and undergraduate head count and graduation by program
- Semester credit hours taught for full-time and part-time positions
- Athletics costs and benefits
- Cost drivers and budget constraints
- Organizational charts

Connecticut Higher Education Financial Sustainability Advisory Board

**Upcoming Meeting
Scheduled for October 10**

Focus on UConn Health



CSCU presentation at the September 9 advisory board meeting

Thank you!



On move-in day 2024, President Radenka Maric and VP Nathan Fuerst greet families with UConn Dairy Bar ice cream.