

UConn

UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT

Board of



TRUSTEES

VOL. 252, MARCH 26, 2025

**UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES AGENDA**

VIRTUAL MEETING

March 26, 2025

Public Streaming Link (with live captioning upon request): <https://ait.uconn.edu/bot>

(A recording of the meeting will be posted on the Board website <https://boardoftrustees.uconn.edu/> within seven days of the meeting.)

Call to order at **9:00 a.m.**

1. Public Participation

Individuals who wish to speak during the Public Participation portion of the Wednesday, March 26, meeting must sign up 24 hours in advance of the meeting's start time (i.e., 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, March 25) by emailing boardoftrustees@uconn.edu. Speaking requests must include a name, topic, and affiliation with the University (i.e., student, employee, member of the public). Per the University By-Laws, the Board may limit the entirety of public comment to a maximum of 30 minutes. As an alternative, individuals may submit written comments to the Board via boardoftrustees@uconn.edu, and all comments will be transmitted to the Board.

2. Delegation of Signature Authority for Endorsement Contracts and Revenue-Sharing Agreements with Student-Athletes

3. New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE) Accreditation Overview

4. Other Business

5. Executive Session (as needed)

6. Adjournment

PLEASE NOTE: *If you are an individual with a disability and require accommodations, please e-mail the Board of Trustees Office at boardoftrustees@uconn.edu prior to the meeting.*

March 26, 2025

TO: Members of the Board of Trustees

FROM: Dr. Radenka Maric
President

RE: Delegation of Signature Authority for Endorsement Contracts and Revenue-Sharing Agreements with Student-Athletes

RECOMMENDATION:

The University administration recommends that the Board of Trustees approve the resolution below authorizing the Director of the Division of Athletics (the “Director”) to sign certain University contracts in which the University is compensating a student-athlete for use of such individual’s name, image, and/or likeness (“NIL”) in the promotion of a product, service, or event (“Endorsement Contract”) or entering into a revenue-sharing arrangement with a student-athlete (“Revenue-Sharing Agreement”).

BACKGROUND:

By Resolution dated February 18, 2010, the Board of Trustees authorized the University President to sign University contracts and to delegate in writing his or her signing authority to other University administrators in accordance with certain standards established by the Board of Trustees. These standards require, among other things, that the Board of Trustees approve in advance University contracts, or amendments thereof, at certain dollar thresholds and/or require that certain University contracts, or amendments thereof, at certain dollar thresholds be presented to the Board of Trustees as an informational item after execution.

Since 2010, the landscape of collegiate athletics has changed significantly. Student-athletes now have opportunities to monetize their NIL and enter into various compensation agreements. This year, the Connecticut legislature enacted legislation allowing universities in the state, including UConn, to directly negotiate Endorsement Contracts and Revenue-Sharing Agreements with student-athletes. The law also expands the privacy rights of student-athletes and allows them to keep their contracts private, while simultaneously requiring that the University report the total amount of revenue shared with student-athletes and the number of student-athletes receiving revenue-sharing each year. The University shall only use Division of Athletics’ self-generated funds for Endorsement Contracts and Revenue-Sharing Agreements (*i.e.* no state funds appropriated to the University may be used).

Beginning in Spring 2025, the University’s Division of Athletics anticipates executing a high volume of Endorsement Contracts and Revenue-Sharing Agreements with student-athletes. Prompt negotiation and execution of these agreements are critical, as student-athletes often receive competing offers from multiple universities. Delays in finalizing agreements will hinder UConn’s ability to secure commitments from both current and prospective student-athletes and place UConn at a competitive disadvantage.

The Director shall, in consultation with the University President, develop an annual budget for all Endorsement Contracts and Revenue-Sharing Agreements (the “SAC Budget”) each year. At the close of each year, the Director shall report to the Board on: (1) the SAC Budget, (2) the aggregate amount actually expended on Endorsement Contracts and Revenue-Sharing Agreements, and (3) the number of students who received such compensation (“SAC Report”).

Subject to the foregoing conditions, the University requests authority for the Director to sign all Endorsement Contracts and Revenue-Sharing Agreements with student-athletes without prior approval of the Board of Trustees and without the requirement to submit such agreements to the Board as an informational item after execution.

RESOLUTION:

In furtherance of the foregoing, the University recommends the Board of Trustees of the University approve the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Director of the Division of Athletics shall have all authority necessary to sign all Endorsement Contracts and Revenue-Sharing Agreements with student-athletes, without prior approval of the Board of Trustees and without the need to submit such agreements to the Board as an informational item after execution. This authority is contingent upon the Director having established a SAC Budget for such year in which any such agreement is executed, ensuring that the total value of executed agreements does not exceed the SAC Budget for such year (unless approved in advance by the University President), and submitting a SAC Report to the Board at the end of each year.

This delegation of authority may not be subdelegated.