

April 23, 2025

TO: Members of the Board of Trustees

FROM: Anne D'Alleva, Ph.D.

Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs



RE: Location Modification: BA in Psychological Sciences (Avery Point)

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Trustees approve the additional location of the Avery Point Campus for the Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Psychological Sciences in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

BACKGROUND:

Psychological Sciences is one of the most popular undergraduate majors at the University of Connecticut. In Spring 2024 over 1,800 undergraduate students were enrolled in Psychological Sciences majors or minors. Approximately 1,300 of these students were enrolled at Storrs, with a further 500 enrolled at one of the four regional campuses. Around 400 students complete a bachelor's degree in Psychological Sciences at the University each year.

Avery Point has seen consistent student enrollments in the field, increasing as a proportion of undergraduate enrollment at the campus over time. In Fall 2016, Psychological Sciences consisted of 5% of Avery Point undergraduate enrollment. In Fall 2024, the proportion had risen to 9%.

There is clear student demand to complete the Psychological Sciences major at Avery Point. Despite the major not being formally offered at the campus, rather than transferring to Storrs, Avery Point undergraduates have been finding ways to try to complete their major while remaining enrolled at the Avery Point campus. For the last four years, Avery Point has had more than 10 juniors or seniors enrolled in the Psychological Sciences major while remaining at the campus. When a major is not offered at a campus, it is challenging for students to remain enrolled in a majority of courses on their home campus while meeting major requirements by commuting to another campus for some classes.

Expanding the popular Psychological Sciences major to the Avery Point campus will ensure that required classes to fully complete the major are offered on the campus each year. From Fall 2025, the addition of a further in-residence faculty member in Psychological Sciences at Avery Point will expand available instruction to allow the University to offer the full degree program at the campus.