

AGENDA

University of Connecticut Board of Trustees

Institutional Advancement Committee Wednesday, September 10, 2025, at 1:00 p.m. Virtual Meeting

Public Streaming Link (with live captioning upon request): <http://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 **1:00 p.m.**

1. Public Participation*

*Individuals who wish to speak during the Public Portion of the Wednesday, September 10, meeting must do so 24 hours in advance of the meeting's start time (1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 9) by emailing BoardCommittees@uconn.edu. Speaking requests must include a name, telephone number, topic, and affiliation with the University (i.e., student, employee, member of the public). The Committee may limit the entirety of public comment to a maximum of 30 minutes. As an alternative, individuals may submit written comments to the Committee via email (BoardCommittees@uconn.edu), and all comments will be transmitted to the Committee.

2. Minutes from June 11, 2025, Meeting
Attachment 1

Dr. Dennis-LaVigne

3. Naming Resolutions
Attachment 2

Ms. Cotton Kelly

- Elisabeth DeLuca School of Nursing
- DeLuca Hall
- Adomat Hall in the School of Nursing
- McLeod Health Assessment Lab in the School of Nursing
- Dr. Maria K. Tackett NURS 1972, NURS 1994 Faculty Office in the School of Nursing
- Daniel and Frances Presnick Faculty Office in the School of Nursing
- George Leigh Minor Plant and Soil Health Center in the College of Agriculture, Health, and Natural Resources
- Keith B. Johnson Board Room in the School of Business
- Charles J. Burstone Center of Excellence for Research and Education in the School of Dental Medicine
- Zigun Family Classroom in the School of Medicine
- Abrahms Family Learning Specialist Office in the Bailey Student Athlete Success Center

4. UConn Foundation Campaign Update

Mr. Van Sambeck

5. UConn Foundation Naming Project

Ms. Marshall

- | | |
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| 6. UConn Foundation / Alumni Update | Ms. Cotton Kelly
Ms. Reynolds |
| 7. Governmental Relations Update | Ms. Lombardo |
| 8. University Communications Update
Attachment 3 | Mr. Kirk |
| 9. University Senate Representative Report | Dr. Timothy Folta |
| 10. Other Business | |
| 11. Executive Session (as needed) | |
| 12. 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.*

DRAFT MINUTES

University of Connecticut Board of Trustees

Institutional Advancement Committee June 11, 2025 Virtual Meeting

Committee Trustees:	Andrea Dennis-LaVigne, Charles Bunnell, Shari Cantor, Jeanine Gouin
Other Trustees:	Daniel Toscano
University Senate Representative:	Timothy Folta
University Staff:	President Maric, Anne D'Alleva, Jeffery Geohegan, Jonathan Heinlein, Philip Hunt, Michael Kirk, Joann Lombardo, Stephanie Reitz, Rachel Rubin, Reka Wrynn
UConn Foundation Staff:	David Carney, Montique Cotton Kelly, Rachel Marshall, Suzanne O'Connor, Marinda Reynolds, Michael Van Sambeck, Amy Yancey

Vice-Chair Dennis-LaVigne called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

1. Public Participation

No members of the public signed up to address the Committee.

2. Minutes from the April 9, 2025, and April 17, 2025, Meetings Attachment 1

On a motion by Trustee Gouin, seconded by Trustee Bunnell, the Committee voted unanimously to approve the minutes from the April 9, 2025, and April 17, 2025, Meetings.

3. Naming Resolutions Attachment 2

- On a motion by Trustee Cantor, seconded by Trustee Gouin, the Committee voted unanimously to approve the Rob & P.J. Brewer & Family Women's Ice Hockey Assistant Coach's Office.
- On a motion by Trustee Bunnell, seconded by Trustee Gouin, the Committee voted unanimously to approve the Urman Peace Garden.
- On a motion by Trustee Gouin, seconded by Trustee Cantor, the Committee voted unanimously to approve the Named Gift Opportunities for MacKenzie Hall.

4. Statement of Work for the UConn Foundation for Fiscal Year 2026 and First Amendment to the Second Amended and Restated Master Agreement Attachment 3

Mr. Geoghegan presented the Statement of Work for the UConn Foundation for FY26 and the First Amendment to the Second Amended and Restate Master Agreement to the Committee.

- On a motion by Trustee Gouin, seconded by Trustee Bunnell, the Committee voted unanimously to approve the Statement of Work for the UConn Foundation for Fiscal Year 2026.
- On a motion by Trustee Cantor, seconded by Trustee Gouin, the Committee voted unanimously to approve the First Amendment to the Second Amended and Restated Master Agreement.

5. UConn Foundation Campaign Update

Ms. Yancey provided an update on the UConn Foundation Campaign.

6. UConn Foundation / Alumni Update

Ms. Cotton Kelly and Ms. Reynolds provided an update on the UConn Alumni happenings.

7. Governmental Relations Update

Ms. Lombardo shared the latest activity with this legislative session.

8. University Communications Update

Attachment 4

Mr. Kirk deferred his report to the next meeting in interest of the Committee's time.

9. University Senate Representative Report

Dr. Folta deferred his report to the next meeting.

10. Other Business

No Other Business was discussed.

11. Executive Session

There was no Executive Session.

12. Adjournment


There being no further business, Vice-Chair Dennis-LaVign motioned to adjourn the meeting.
The meeting was adjourned at 2:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jen Cote
Secretary to the Committee

September 17, 2025

TO: Members of the Board of Trustees

FROM: Dr. Radenka Maric 

RE: Naming Recommendation for the Elisabeth DeLuca School of Nursing at the University of Connecticut

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Trustees name the School of Nursing as the "Elisabeth DeLuca School of Nursing."

BACKGROUND:

Established in 1942, UConn's School of Nursing was the first public institution in Connecticut to offer a program leading to a bachelor's degree in nursing. For over 80 years, the School of Nursing has prepared nurses to serve diverse populations in a variety of clinical settings.


Elisabeth C. DeLuca is an alumna of the School of Nursing, where she earned her B.S. in 1969. Her transformative gift positions the School of Nursing to be a leader in combating the state and national nursing shortage.

Ms. DeLuca's gift will provide scholarships and programmatic support for a dynamic nursing education that includes patient-centered practice, interdisciplinary research, and technology-based innovations. The gift will also support the construction of a new state-of-the-art facility for the School of Nursing in Storrs.

Naming the School as the Elisabeth DeLuca School of Nursing acknowledges Ms. DeLuca's significant philanthropic contributions.

Ms. DeLuca's pledge is consistent with the University's *Named Gift Guidelines*.

September 17, 2025

TO: Members of the Board of Trustees
FROM: Dr. Radenka Maric 
RE: Naming Recommendation for DeLuca Hall

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Trustees name the new School of Nursing building as "DeLuca Hall."


BACKGROUND:

Currently under construction, the new School of Nursing building, located at 834 Bolton Road, will be 5-stories tall and approximately 92,000 square feet. The building will include instructional spaces, Simulation Learning space, a Nursing Research Center, a Center for Student Success, and Makerspace.

Elisabeth C. DeLuca is an alumna of the School of Nursing, where she earned her B.S. in 1969. Her transformative gift positions the School of Nursing to be a leader in combating the state and national nursing shortage and will be transformational for the profession. Ms. DeLuca's gift provides financial support for the new building construction, scholarships, and programmatic support for a dynamic nursing education that includes patient-centered practice, interdisciplinary research, and technology-based innovations.

Ms. DeLuca's pledge is consistent with the University's *Named Gift Guidelines*.

September 17, 2025

TO: Members of the Board of Trustees
FROM: Dr. Radenka Maric 
RE: Naming Recommendation for Adomat Hall

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Trustees name "Adomat Hall" in the new School of Nursing.

BACKGROUND:

The identified lecture hall will be approximately 2,688 square feet and located on the first floor of the new School of Nursing building. The innovative-learning lecture hall is expected to offer a flexible education environment for nursing students capable of scaling to size and adjusting configuration.

Adomat Hall will be named in honor of Elizabeth C. DeLuca's mother, Elsa Adomat. Ms. DeLuca is an alumna of the School of Nursing, where she earned her B.S. in 1969. Her transformative gift positions the School of Nursing to be a leader in combating the state and national nursing shortage and will be transformational for the profession. Ms. DeLuca's gift will provide scholarships and programmatic support for a dynamic nursing education that includes patient-centered practice, interdisciplinary research, and technology-based innovations. It will also support the construction of a new state-of-the-art facility for the School of Nursing in Storrs.

Ms. DeLuca's pledge is consistent with the University's *Named Gift Guidelines*.

September 17, 2025

TO: Members of the Board of Trustees
FROM: Dr. Radenka Maric 
RE: Naming Recommendation for the McLeod Health Assessment Lab

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Trustees name Room 406 within the new School of Nursing building as the "McLeod Health Assessment Lab."

BACKGROUND:

Located on the fourth floor of the new School of Nursing building, Room 406 is approximately 1400 square feet with 16 patient bays. The patient bays will serve as a learning environment that uses simulated patients and real-world scenarios to teach nursing students how to perform assessments and practice skills such as vital sign assessment, medication administration and patient communication in a safe, controlled environment.


The McLeod Blue Skye Charitable Foundation, Inc is a long-time strategic partner of the University led by Elaine ('78 NURS) and Chris McLeod whose parents and brother are all UConn alumni.

In 2004, Mr. and Mrs. McLeod established the McLeod Family Endowed Scholarship, their first of several gifts to UConn. The McLeods also support UConn more broadly, providing a fellowship in the Neag School of Education designed to improve K-12 science education, and through Chris McLeod's prior service as a member of the Board of Directors at UConn Ventures, a former subsidiary of the UConn Foundation that funded innovative start-up business based on technologies developed by UConn faculty and staff.

The McLeod's current gift is consistent with University's *Named Gift Guidelines*.

September 17, 2025

TO: Members of the Board of Trustees

FROM: Dr. Radenka Maric 

RE: Naming Recommendation for the Dr. Maria K. Tackett NURS 1972, NURS 1994 Faculty Office

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Trustees name the Dr. Maria K. Tackett NURS 1972, NURS 1994 Faculty Office in the School of Nursing.

BACKGROUND:


This approximately 90-square foot faculty office will be located on the second floor of the new School of Nursing Building.

Dr. Maria Tackett graduated with a Bachelor of Science in 1972 and a Master of Science in 1994 from UConn's School of Nursing. She has a highly respected career in nursing, health care, and educational leadership, which includes serving in the 405th Combat Support Hospital U.S. Army Reserves for 20 years. She trained hundreds of medics and nurses in combat trauma care and was deployed to Anbar Province, Iraq, where she led the emergency room that treated more than 3,000 patients. She retired at the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. Dr. Tackett was also Director of Neurotrauma Service for 12 years at Hartford Hospital and served as Nursing Director of Trauma and Professional Practice for the Hartford region of Hartford HealthCare.

Dr. Tackett previously established the Maria K. Tackett Nursing Scholarship Fund. The purpose of the Fund is to provide scholarship support to University of Connecticut students enrolled in the School of Nursing.

Dr. Tackett's pledge is consistent with the University's *Named Gift Guidelines* to name this space.

September 17, 2025

TO: Members of the Board of Trustees
FROM: Dr. Radenka Maric 
RE: Naming Recommendation for the Daniel and Frances Presnick Faculty Office

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Trustees name the Faculty Office as the "Daniel and Frances Presnick Faculty Office" in the School of Nursing.

BACKGROUND:

This approximately 90-square foot faculty office will be located on the second floor of the new School of Nursing Building.

Daniel and Frances Presnick are the late parents of Dr. Carole M. Presnick ('75 CLAS). Dr. Presnick and her siblings are proud of their UConn association and credit their parents for making their UConn degrees possible. Married in 1951, Daniel and Frances came from humble beginnings – both were children of immigrants – and had strong work ethics and deep love for their family. Daniel worked as a laborer at U.S. Steel and had a reputation for fixing any broken thing that crossed his path. Frances was a nurse who instilled in their four children a love of learning. Today, the extended Presnick family has 23 UConn alumni among them.

Dr. Presnick previously co-established the Presnick Family Nursing Scholarship Fund. The purpose of the Fund is to provide scholarship support to University of Connecticut students enrolled in the University's School of Nursing.

Dr. Presnick's pledge is consistent with the University's *Named Gift Guidelines*.

September 17, 2025

TO: Members of the Board of Trustees

FROM: Dr. Radenka Maric



RE: Naming Recommendation for the George Leigh Minor Plant and Soil Health Center

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Trustees name the future Plant and Soil Health Center as the "George Leigh Minor Plant and Soil Health Center," in honor of Mr. Minor's legacy gift to the College of Agriculture, Health and Natural Resources.

BACKGROUND:


The George Leigh Minor Plant and Soil Health Center will bring together UConn's public-facing agricultural services including the UConn Home and Garden Education Center, the UConn Plant Diagnostics Lab, the UConn Turf Diagnostics Lab, and the UConn Soil and Plant Nutrient Analysis Lab. Co-housing these service centers and creating a new public learning space on the Storrs campus will allow for integration of research, teaching, and extension.

Mr. George Minor was from a family of Huskies, starting with his father, Leigh Minor, who graduated from Connecticut Agricultural College in 1916. George Minor grew up on the family farm, leaving only to earn his Bachelor of Science degree from UConn. Upon graduation in 1956, Mr. Minor returned home and remained a farmer throughout his life. Mr. Minor lived frugally, saving and investing his money for the sole purpose of quietly donating his wealth to his alma mater after his passing.

Naming the future Plant and Soil Health Center in honor of Mr. Minor's generosity would be a fitting tribute to a lifelong learner and farmer. Mr. Minor's legacy will inspire the next generation of students, farmers, gardeners, and lifelong learners, as well as have a positive impact on local agricultural industries and the natural environment that relies upon healthy plants and soil.

The amount of Mr. Minor's realized bequest is consistent with the University's *Named Gift Guidelines*.

September 17, 2025

TO: Members of the Board of Trustees
FROM: Dr. Radenka Maric 
RE: Naming Recommendation for the Keith B. Johnson Board Room

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Trustees name the School of Business Board Room as the "Keith B. Johnson Board Room."

BACKGROUND:


The Board Room can accommodate 31-50 individuals and comprises 1,070 square feet on the second floor of the School of Business. It is used throughout the year for a variety of events, including meetings, receptions, student career programs, and new employee orientation.

Keith Johnson was a professor emeritus and former head of the School of Business's Finance Department. Dr. Johnson worked at UConn for 34 years before his retirement in 1996. In addition to his work at UConn, he served as a staff economist in Washington D.C. at the Securities and Exchange Commission, and as a Ford Foundation Scholar at Harvard University.

Dr. Thomas O'Brien, Professor Emeritus and colleague of Dr. Johnson, made a charitable commitment in memory of Dr. Johnson in an amount consistent with the University's *Named Gift Guidelines*.

September 17, 2025

TO: Members of the Board of Trustees

FROM: Dr. Radenka Maric 

RE: Naming Recommendation for the Charles J. Burstone Center of Excellence for Research and Education

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Trustees establish the "Charles J. Burstone Center of Excellence for Research and Education" in the Division of Orthodontics within the School of Dental Medicine at UConn Health.

BACKGROUND:


The Dr. Charles J. Burstone Foundation has provided philanthropic funding to the School of Dental Medicine for the sole purpose of establishing this center and funding its associated research and education initiatives, which the Division of Orthodontics has been conducting since 2021.

The Charles J. Burstone Center of Excellence for Research and Education aims to foster a dynamic, multidisciplinary research team comprised of orthodontists and biomedical engineers to conduct innovative orthodontic research. It is expected to facilitate the translation of new research findings into clinical therapies for patients more rapidly; improve clinical care and enhance the quality of life for patients through professional training and education programs; expand collaborative alliances with other leading centers of orthodontic research; and educate and train the next generation of clinician scientists and orthodontists.

This naming opportunity was shared with the UConn Health Board of Directors at their June 9, 2025, meeting. The Charles J. Burstone Foundation's gift is consistent with the University's *Named Gift Guidelines*.

September 17, 2025

TO: Members of the Board of Trustees

FROM: Dr. Radenka Maric 

RE: Naming Recommendation for the Zigun Family Classroom at the UConn School of Medicine

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Trustees name Classroom A2 around the Academic Rotunda located within the School of Medicine as the "Zigun Family Classroom."

BACKGROUND:


Opened in 2017, the Academic Rotunda is the centerpiece of the Academic Entrance at the School of Medicine. It is a circular space, 75-feet in diameter, shaped for small-unit, interactive, team-based learning and is equipped with advanced projection and acoustic technologies. Students sit at round tables in groups and actively engage with each other, content experts, and faculty. This format approximates the way medical professionals consult with each other in hospitals to solve complex problems. The Academic Rotunda is suited for lectures as well as for conferences and events for up to 350 people. The space can accommodate 240 students in the team-based learning layout. The perimeter of the Rotunda includes eight small rooms which can be used as classrooms or as conference breakout spaces.

The late Dr. Benjamin Zigun graduated from the UConn Medical School in 1988, the UConn Law School in 1997, and the UConn School of Business with an MBA in 2012. He was an accomplished psychiatrist and leader in the medical community. Dr. Zigun and his wife, Dr. Jennifer Zigun, have generously contributed to the University for over 23 years.

Their commitment is consistent with the University's *Named Gift Guidelines*.

September 17, 2025

TO: Members of the Board of Trustees

FROM: Dr. Radenka Maric 

RE: Naming Recommendation for the Abrahms Family Learning Specialist Office

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Trustees name a learning specialist office as the "Abrahms Family Learning Specialist Office" in the Bailey Student-Athlete Success Center.

BACKGROUND:

The Bailey Student-Athlete Success Center will be a state-of-the-art student-athlete performance and academic support center on the Storrs campus. The proposed learning specialist office will be located within the Academic Center open study suite on the second floor. The learning specialist office will total approximately 190 square feet.

Mr. Zachary Abrahms is an avid supporter of UConn Athletics. He grew up in West Hartford and has followed many of UConn's programs over the years. Financially, he has contributed to the operating funds of many programs, including a Men's Ice Hockey locker.

Mr. Abrahms' gift is consistent with the University's *Named Gift Guidelines*.



MEMORANDUM

To: Institutional Advancement Committee
From: Mike Kirk, Interim Vice President for Communications
Date: September 10, 2025
Subject: UConn in the media

['Why Do I Grind My Teeth at Night?'](#)

June 2, 2025 – USA Today

"A general dentist is most likely going to suspect that a patient is clenching or grinding when they see significant tooth wear (called attrition or abrasion)," says Dr. Seema Kurup, a board-certified orofacial pain and temporomandibular disorders specialist and an associate professor and division chair of oral medicine and orofacial pain at the University of Connecticut School of Dental Medicine.

['Half the Tree of Life': Ecologists' Horror as Nature Reserves Are Emptied of Insects](#)

June 3, 2025 – The Guardian (UK)

When David Wagner stepped out into the US's southern wilderness this spring, he found landscapes emptied of life. The University of Connecticut entomologist has devoted much of his career to documenting the vast diversity of US insect life, particularly rare caterpillars. He traverses the country to find specimens, often on long road trips searching for caterpillars by day and moths by night.

[The Creativity Challenge](#)

June 4, 2025 – The New York Times

Constraints can come in other forms, though. Dr. Seuss famously used just 50 different words to write "Green Eggs and Ham." James C. Kaufman, a professor of educational psychology at the University of Connecticut who teaches creativity, has his students compose a short story without using the letter E.

[Canadian Wildfire Smoke Spreads into US Midwest](#)

June 4, 2025 – Reuters

"Airborne particulate matter is the most serious environmental health risk we know of," said Doug Brugge, a public health researcher at the University of Connecticut School of Medicine. "It causes cardiovascular, respiratory and neurological harm, and these plumes of smoke are at very high levels compared to what we're usually exposed to in the U.S."

[Cuts to School Lunch and Food Bank Funding Mean Less Fresh Produce for Children and Families](#)

June 5, 2025 – The Conversation

News analysis by UConn Rudd Center Director Marlene Schwartz

[Natural Disasters Can Be More Dangerous for People with Neurological Conditions](#)

June 6, 2025 – Brain & Life

People with neurologic conditions should always be ready for an emergency, especially if they live in an area prone to floods, fires, hurricanes, or earthquakes, says Anthony Alessi, MD, associate clinical professor of neurology at the University of Connecticut Health in Farmington, who worked with earthquake survivors in Haiti.

[Football Fans Prefer Pre-Match Beers to the Game](#)

The Telegraph (UK) - June 9, 2025

“What we see is that, in fact, the pre-game ritual generates more emotional synchrony than the game itself,” said Dr Dimitris Xygalatas, the study author and an avid football fan working at the University of Connecticut. “There’s a single moment in the entire game when they have more collective emotional synchrony than the pre-game ritual, and that’s when they scored a goal.”

[Sports Fans Bond Most Over Rituals, Not Just Games](#)

Mirage News (Australia) – June 9, 2025

University of Connecticut professor of anthropology Dimitris Xygalatas is a scientist and self-declared rational thinker. But he's also a lifelong soccer fan, and he fully admits that when his Greek home team finally won their league in 2019, he cried tears of joy.

[It's Not the Game, It's the Group: Sports Fans Connect Most Over Rituals](#)

Phys.org – June 9, 2025

With the cooperation of a die-hard Brazilian soccer (actually, it's "football," Xygalatas grudgingly reminds us Americans) fan club, University of Connecticut professor Dimitris Xygalatas and his team tracked the physiological arousal of fans before, during, and after a state championship final in Minas Gerais between local rival teams. Using wearable heart monitors, they measured the emotional reactions of fans during the ritual of Rua de Fogo (Street of Fire), during which crowds gather near the stadium to welcome the team's bus.

[The Scholar Who Predicted America's Breakdown Says It's Just Beginning](#)

Newsweek – June 11, 2025

Fifteen years ago, smack in the middle of [Barack Obama](#)'s first term, amid the rapid rise of social media and a slow recovery from the Great Recession, a professor at the University of Connecticut issued a stark warning: the United States was heading into a decade of growing political instability.

[Seaweed Stories](#)

Lonely Whale & Re:Wild – June 11, 2025

Leonardo DiCaprio-produced documentary that features interviews with Emeritus Professor Charlie Yarish, identified as UConn faculty member.

[People's Mental Health Often Improves After Weight-Loss Surgery. A New Study Pinpoints the Real Reason Why](#)

LiveScience – June 11, 2025

"There's considerable evidence that societal weight stigma is prevalent and has harmful health consequences for people with obesity," said Rebecca Puhl, deputy director for the Rudd Center for Food Policy and Health at the University of Connecticut, who was not involved in the new study.

['Ozempic Hands' is the Latest Skinny Side Effect No One Asked For](#)

AOL – June 11, 2025

"The appearance of 'Ozempic hands,' where the hands look bonier and rings fall off people's fingers, is a common finding whenever there is major weight loss," C. Michael White, Pharm.D. Distinguished Professor and Chair, Pharmacy Practice, UConn School of Pharmacy, said.

[\\$67 in France and \\$798 in the US: Why Prescription Drug Prices Are So High in the US](#)

The Epoch Times – June 11, 2025

However, all these medications are of a lesser-expensive type known as small-molecule drugs, according to C. Michael White of the University of Connecticut School of Pharmacy. None of the more costly large-molecule drugs used to treat cancer and other diseases were discounted. White thinks greater savings are possible. "Private insurers negotiate the price of all drugs with manufacturers, so why is the federal government only negotiating a handful each year?" he told The Epoch Times.

[Pregame Rituals Build Stronger Bonds Than the Game Itself](#)

Psychiatrist.com – June 12, 2025

An intriguing new study out of the University of Connecticut reveals something that may come as a surprise to international football (soccer to Americans) fans. In a testament to the social power of sports, UConn anthropology professor Dimitris Xygalatas and his team have found that it's not just the games that bring fans together, it's the rituals around them.

[NASA Sensor on Space Station Eyes Contamination Off the California Coast](#)

NASA News – June 12, 2025

Lead author Eva Scrivner, a doctoral student at the University of Connecticut, said that the findings "show a 'smoking gun' of sorts for wastewater in the Tijuana River plume." Scrivner, who led the study while at San Diego State University, added that EMIT could be useful for filling data gaps around intensely polluted sites where traditional water sampling takes a lot of time and money.

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[When It Comes to Reporting on Mass Killings, Some in Europe Take a Different Approach from Americans](#)

The Independent (UK) – June 13, 2025

Some news organizations make it a point to minimize the names of the alleged perpetrator of such crimes. There have been public campaigns to encourage journalists to focus on victims, survivors and heroes instead of the people who commit the crimes, said Amanda Crawford, a journalism professor at the University of Connecticut who is writing a book on media coverage of mass shootings.

[Millions Rally Against Authoritarianism, While the White House Paints the Protests as Threats](#)

The Conversation – June 15, 2025

News analysis by Professor Jeremy Pressman.

[Lecturer at Kwame Ture Series: At the Heart of Revolution is Love](#)

Trinidad & Tobago Newsday – June 16, 2025

Professor Lewis Gordon, head of the philosophy in the University of Connecticut, equated revolutions such as the Haitian revolution with love, at his feature presentation during the Kwame Ture Memorial Lecture Series at NAPA, Port of Spain, on June 15.

[Brood XIV Has Arrived. Enjoy the Spectacle](#)

TBR Newsmedia – June 17, 2025

University of Connecticut entomologist Chris Simon emphasized the prevalence of misconceptions surrounding that 17-year period. “They don’t hatch out of the ground; they hatched from eggs in tree branches seventeen years ago,” Simon wrote in an email. “They are not sleeping underground, they are actively growing and passing through five juvenile stages.”

[The Growth of Women’s Sports is Changing the Game for Female Workers and Parents](#)

Sports Business Journal – June 18, 2025

Opinion column by Professor Risa Isard.

[When Do Sports Fans’ Hearts Beat as One? Most Often, It’s Not During the Game](#)

NPR – June 18, 2025

For this study, Xygalatas, a professor at the University of Connecticut, and his collaborators focused on the collective emotions of fans at a specific, annual Brazilian sports event called the “Street of Fire.”

[Sarah Nolen’s “Party Animals”: The Puppeteer’s Rock ‘n’ Roll Show](#)

The Boston Globe – June 23, 2025

After college, she worked as a production assistant on reality shows “Donna Decorates Dallas” and “Gator 911.” But puppets were always her end game, and she found her way to the Puppet Arts program at the University of Connecticut.

[Three Ways to Protect Your Mind and Body When the Heat Rises](#)

The Washington Post – June 24, 2025

To protect yourself, give yourself time to acclimatize to the heat and stay hydrated. “The first 10 to 15 days of anyone doing any new activity in a warm environment are really important to progressively and gradually do that. Because you allow your body time to adapt,” said Rebecca Stearns, the chief operating officer of the [Korey Stringer Institute](#), a nonprofit housed at the University of Connecticut dedicated to studying and preventing heatstroke in athletes.

[From Obscurity to Glastonbury. Did DoeChii Really Predict Success Five Years Ago?](#)

The Guardian (UK) – June 27, 2025

"The song and accompanying video work so well in showing exactly how anxiety feels in our bodies and minds," wrote University of Connecticut Professor Sandra Chafouleas. "Think about quick and short breaths, racing thoughts, and worrying about things that haven't happened yet. Anxiety feels like 'Anxiety' sounds, with brilliant mirroring of how the experience can hijack us."

[Maybe It's Not Just Aging. Maybe It's Anemia](#)

The New York Times – June 30, 2025

Anemia “deserves our attention, but it doesn’t always get it,” said Dr. George Kuchel, a geriatrician at the University of Connecticut, who wasn’t surprised by the findings.

[One Man's Quiet War to Save New England's Oldest Landmarks](#)

The Providence Journal – July 1, 2025

Robert Thorson, an Earth Science professor at the University of Connecticut, has written books, including "Stone by Stone," and articles on the historical and geological significance of New England's stone walls. He says their existence is threatened by people who want to mine the stones, but the walls don't have the protections worthy of such important assets.

[The Rule of Law is Key to Capitalism – Eroding It Is Bad News for American Business](#)

The Conversation – July 2, 2025

News analysis by Robert Bird, Professor of Business Law & Eversource Energy Chair in Business Ethics.

[In Grace Kelly's Family, an Ongoing Reckoning Over Her Uncle's 'Unspoken' Sexuality](#)

The Philadelphia Inquirer – July 3, 2025

During his life, George was doubly closeted: both because of his sexuality, and because of his Irishness, which was an identity to be hidden in stratified Philadelphia in the late 1800s and early 1900s, said Mary Burke, a professor of Irish literature at the University of Connecticut. The playwright burned all his personal papers. “All we can do is look at George’s context. Of course, he was a private person,” Burke said. “And of course, maybe we’re projecting backward — but I think we’re not.”

[5 UConn Representatives Find Common Ground at National Office](#)

NCAA News – July 5, 2025

Feature story on UConn delegates to annual NCAA event.

[International Medical Students Due to Start Residencies Caught in Visa Bottleneck](#)

CBS News – July 10, 2025

Broadcast story that featured UConn Health students and faculty.

[On Truth in Politics: Why Democracy Demands It](#)

New Books Network – July 12, 2025

Feature-length interview with Provost Professor of the Humanities and Board of Trustees Distinguished Professor of Philosophy Michael Lynch.

[Legal Experts Weigh in on the Implications of the 2025 Supreme Court Term for K-12 Education](#)

Brookings Institute – July 15, 2025

Commentary and analysis by Professor of Educational Law Preston Green III.

[Her Mom Died of Breast Cancer. She Made a Tool to Detect It](#)

The Washington Post – July 16, 2025

Feature on project by UConn engineering students.

[How to Increase Bone Density and Stay Strong After 50](#)

Woman's World – July 16, 2025

Bone density, or bone mineral density (BMD), refers to the concentration of essential minerals like calcium and phosphorus in your bones. "Dense bone is stronger and can tolerate more stressors," says Faryal Mirza, MD, an endocrinologist, professor of medicine at the University of Connecticut (UConn) School of Medicine and the director of the UConn Center for Osteoporosis in Farmington, CT.

[Trump Diagnosed with Vein Condition Causing Leg Swelling, White House Says](#)

Reuters – July 17, 2025

Kwame Amankwah, a physician who is chief of vascular surgery at the University of Connecticut in Hartford, said chronic venous insufficiency is usually an issue with the lower legs in which the veins have problems sending blood from the legs back to the heart. It is usually treated with compression stockings and leg elevation, he said.

[America Under Attack from Lab-Made Drugs](#)

Newsmax – July 23, 2025

In a recent interview on Newsmax, David White, Professor and Head of the Department of Pharmacy Practice at the University of Connecticut, and Matthew Lowe, Executive Director of Stop Gas Station Heroin, share with the American people how these synthetic substances are illegally imported, illegally marketed, and illegally sold across the United States.

[FDA Warns Manufacturer It's Making Illegal Pain-Relief Pills](#)

The Kansas City Tribune – July 25, 2025

Eating apple seeds is a good way to explain the difference between 7-OH products and regular kratom products, said Charles White, chair of the department of pharmacy practice at the UConn School of Pharmacy. "What if a company extracted the amygdalin out of the seeds and put it through a chemical process to produce cyanide and only put the cyanide in a tablet in a dose that can kill people," he said. "Then when people express concern, you tell them that it is safe and refer to data on the healthy effects of apples to sell it."

[Landmark Study Fills DNA Gaps in Boost to Precision Medicine](#)

STAT News – July 25, 2025

"This is a landmark paper," said Barbara Mellone, professor of molecular and cell biology at the University of Connecticut, who was not involved in the research. "It opens the door to potentially solving cases that have been inaccessible to diagnosis for a long time."

[Stubborn, Overlooked Realms of the Human Genome Decoded at Last](#)

Cosmos – July 26, 2025

"Our genomes are not static, and neither is our understanding of them," says Dr Christine Beck from the Jackson Laboratory for Genomic Medicine (JAX) and the University of Connecticut, USA, who co-led the second study. "For too long, our genetic references have excluded much of the world's population. This work captures essential variation that helps explain why disease risk isn't the same for everyone."

[Scientists Observed Synchronized Oxytocin in Couples After Sex](#)

PsyPost – July 28, 2025

While previous studies have shown increases in oxytocin during sexual activity and after orgasm, researchers have rarely measured how the hormone fluctuates during a real-life sexual encounter between two people in a natural setting. The team behind this study, including Amanda Denes at the University of Connecticut and colleagues from multiple U.S. institutions, aimed to fill that gap by studying couples in their own homes.

[What to Know Before You Buy a Weight-Loss Supplement on TikTok](#)

PBS – July 29, 2025

"The marketing seems to suggest that you could get with these natural products, these natural ingredients, the same effect that you can get with GLP-1 agonists, which is simply not the case. And in that way, they are being misleading to people," said C. Michael White, professor of pharmacy practice at the University of Connecticut School of Pharmacy.

[FDA Recommends Ban of Potent Kratom Variant](#)

Phoenix News-Times – August 2, 2025

C. Michael White, a member of the Kratom Consumer Advisory Council and professor of pharmacy at the University of Connecticut, "strongly" supports the FDA's decision, he told Phoenix New Times in a statement. He thinks 7-OH "should be banned." He argued 7-OH is a strong opioid "more potent than morphine" and said studies with animals found it produces rapid tolerance and addiction.

[Trump's Efforts to Control Information Echo an Authoritarian Playbook](#)

The New York Times – August 3, 2025

"Democracy can't realistically exist without reliable epistemic infrastructure," said Michael Patrick Lynch, author of the recently published "On Truth in Politics" and a professor at the University of Connecticut. "Anti-democratic, authoritarian leaders know this," he said. "That is why they will seize every opportunity to control sources of information. As Bacon taught us, knowledge is power. But preventing or controlling access to knowledge is also power."

[Do Neck-Cooling Fans Really Help You Beat the Heat?](#)

NPR – August 4, 2025

"The biggest thing is being able to evaporate the sweat off your body," says Cecilia Kaufman, director of occupational safety for the Korey Stringer Institute at the University of Connecticut. In theory, a fan can boost your body's evaporative cooling process by speeding the flow of air over your skin. "The problem is when it's hot and humid, the sweat does not evaporate as quickly off your skin," Kaufman says. "So that takes away your body's ability to really cool."

[Opt In or Not? States Weigh Big Decision on Federal School Vouchers](#)

Education Week – August 5, 2025

It's "rather unique" that the funding could support expenses other than just private school tuition, said Casey Cobb, a professor of education policy at the University of Connecticut. But the main emphasis is on supporting families pursuing private school, he said. Data from states that have expanded private school choice offerings in recent years have shown that students already enrolled in private school make up the majority of those taking advantage.

[Reframing the Debate: Scientific Insights into Kratom, 7-OH, and Responsible Regulation](#)

Washington City Paper – August 12, 2025

Commentary by Distinguished Professor of Pharmacy Practice C. Michael White.

[Schmoozing, Robots, and You](#)

The Last Show with David Cooper – August 13, 2025

Interview with Professor Amanda Denes.

[Making Time for Science in Kindergarten Could Have a Big Payoff](#)

Education Week – August 14, 2025

“In the early grades, science is very neglected,” said Kathleen Lynch, an assistant professor of learning sciences at the University of Connecticut’s Neag School of Education, who studies science, technology, engineering, and math education. “Many kids aren’t being exposed to science content at all at these grade levels, or if they are, it’s maybe a couple of times a week, off and on.”

[This Glove Helps Detect Breast Cancer](#)

Bild (Germany) – August 17, 2025

At the Medtronic Research Day, Holton presented her passion project again. This time, it was a success: A professor at the University of Connecticut (UConn) brought the idea into the Senior Design program. Five biomedical engineering students developed a prototype under Holton's supervision. In spring 2025, the virtual self-examination glove was unveiled.

[New Tax Credit a Boon to Private Schools. Will Washington Opt In?](#)

The Seattle Times – August 19, 2025

State law doesn’t apply because it is a federal program and it isn’t funded by state money, according to Preston Green, an urban education and educational leadership and law professor at the University of Connecticut. Even if state funds were used, three recent Supreme Court cases dating to 2017 ruled that if a state has a private voucher program, it can’t exclude religious schools from that program.

[As Fall Semester Kicks Off, Major US Universities Celebrate Record Enrollments](#)

The Times of India – August 25, 2025

These figures are not just numbers; they are carefully cultivated proof that universities are navigating unprecedented challenges, attracting students despite political turbulence, economic pressures, and growing skepticism about the value of a college degree. First-year classes at Bowling Green State University, Texas Christian University, and the University of Connecticut reached unprecedented levels, underscoring a nationwide pattern of growth across institutions of all sizes.

[Hurricane Katrina Forced Changes at FEMA. Trump is Rolling Them Back](#)

NPR – August 27, 2025

Radio segment that interviewed Professor of History Andy Horowitz.

[20 Years After Katrina, New Orleans' Levees are Sinking and Short on Money](#)

Grist – August 27, 2025

“Since 2005, several storms have made landfall on the Gulf Coast that far exceed the stated design capacity of the new ‘risk reduction system,’” said Andy Horowitz, a historian at the University of Connecticut and the author of a book on Hurricane Katrina. “It’s just chance, or luck, that one of them didn’t hit New Orleans. One day, inevitably, one will.”

[Author of Book on Hurricane Katrina Debunks Myths and Misconceptions](#)

NPR Morning Edition – August 29, 2025

Interview with Professor of History Andy Horowitz.

[Katrina's America](#)

Southern Cultures – August 29, 2025

Special issue of Southern Cultures Magazine edited by Professor Andy Horowitz.