

MINUTES

UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**Wilbur Cross Building
North Reading Room (109)
233 Glenbrook Road
Storrs, Connecticut**

Wednesday, September 17, 2025

The Board of Trustees meeting was called to order at 9:02 a.m. by Board Chair Daniel D. Toscano.

The following Trustees participated in person: Trustees Andy F. Bessette, Shari G. Cantor, Andrea Dennis-LaVigne, Sean K. Dunn, Denis J. Nayden, Bryan K. Pollard, Thomas D. Ritter, Philip E. Rubin, Fabio R. Saccomanno, Daniel D. Toscano, and Diane W. Whitney.

Also in attendance was Natalie Wagner, Governor Lamont's designee.

The following Trustees participated virtually: Trisha M. Bailey, John P. Driscoll, Kevin O'Connor, Daniel H. O'Keefe, and Charlene Russell-Tucker.

Trustees Mark L. Boxer, Charles F. Bunnell, Marilda L. Gandara, and Bryan P. Hurlburt were not in attendance.

The following University Senate Representatives attended the meeting in person: Amvrossios Bagtzoglo, Karen Bresciano, Lindsay Cummings, Carrie Fernandes, Timothy Folta, Micah Heumann, Tina McCarthy, and Lisa Park Boush.

The following University Senate Representative attended the meeting virtually: Horea Ilies.

The following University Staff attended the meeting in person: President Radenka Maric, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs Anne D'Alleva, Executive Vice President for Health Affairs Andrew Agwunobi, Executive Vice President for Finance and Chief Financial Officer Jeffrey Geoghegan, General Counsel and Executive Secretary to the Board Nicole Gelston, Chief of Staff Michelle Williams, Vice President for Research, Entrepreneurship and Innovation S. Pamir Alpay, Vice President for Student Life and Enrollment Nathan Fuerst, Director of Athletics David Benedict, Chief Counsel Scott Simpson, Interim Vice President for Communications Michael Kirk, Interim Vice President for Finance Reka Wrynn, Deputy Chief of Staff Philip Hunt, Senior Director for Governmental Relations Joann Lombardo, Director for Governmental Relations Gail Garber, Director of Governmental Relations – UConn Health Marie Schweitzer, and Director Brandon Murray.

The following University Staff attended virtually: Chief of Staff to the Executive Vice President for Health Affairs Andrea Keilty, Vice President and Chief Human Resources Officer Lakeesha Brown, and Assistant Vice President for Health Communications Gina Czark.

Also in attendance virtually was Chief of Staff to the Governor Matthew Brokman and Hugh McDonald, outside counsel.

OPEN SESSION

1. Public Participation

Cathy Osten, State Senator, Heather Somers, State Senator, and State Representative André Bumgardner spoke in support of University investment in the Regional Campuses, primarily Avery Point.

Marc Okun, North Atlantic States Regional Council of Carpenters, raised concerns and offered recommendations related to the proposed Wilhusky Housing LLC easements and cooperation agreement.

On a motion by Trustee Pollard, seconded by Trustee Rubin, the Board voted unanimously to amend the agenda to add an Executive Session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by Trustee Dennis-LaVigne, seconded by Trustee Bessette, the Board voted unanimously to go into Executive Session at 9:40 a.m. regarding:

1. CGS 1-200(6)(D): Discussion of the selection of a site or the lease, sale or purchase of real estate by the state or a political subdivision of the state when publicity regarding such site, lease, sale, purchase or construction would adversely impact the price of such site, lease, sale, purchase or construction until such time as all of the property has been acquired or all proceedings or transactions concerning same have been terminated or abandoned; and (E) discussion of any matter which would result in the disclosure of public records or the information contained therein described in subsection (b) of section 1-210;
2. CGS 1-210(b)(1): Preliminary drafts or notes provided the public agency has determined that the public interest in withholding such documents clearly outweighs the public interest in disclosure;
3. CGS 1-210(b)(5)(A): Trade secrets, which for purposes of the Freedom of Information Act, are defined as information, including formulas, patterns, compilations, programs, devices, methods, techniques, processes, drawings, cost data, customer lists, film or television scripts or detailed production budgets that (i) derive independent economic value, actual or potential, from not being generally known to, and not being readily ascertainable by proper means by, other persons who can obtain economic value from their disclosure or use, and (ii) are the subject of efforts that are reasonable under the circumstances to maintain secrecy; and (B) Commercial or financial information given in confidence, not required by statute; and
4. CGS 1-210(b)(10): Records, tax returns, reports and statements exempted by federal law or the general statutes or communications privileged by the attorney-client relationship, marital relationship, clergy-penitent relationship, doctor-patient relationship, therapist-patient relationship or any other privilege established by the common law or the general statutes, including any such records, tax returns, reports or communications that were created or made prior to the establishment of the applicable privilege under the common law or the general statutes.

The following Trustees attended the Executive Session: Bailey, Bessette, Cantor, Dennis-LaVigne, Driscoll, Dunn, O'Keefe, Nayden, Pollard, Ritter, Rubin, Saccomanno, Toscano, and Whitney.

Natalie Wagner, Governor Lamont's designee, was also in attendance.

The following University Staff attended the entirety of the Executive Session: President Maric, Andrew Agwunobi, Lakeesha Brown, Gina Czark, Gail Garber, Nicole Gelston, Jeff Geoghegan, Philip Hunt, Andrea Keilty, Michael Kirk, Joann Lombardo, Brandon Murray, Marie Schweitzer, Scott Simpson, Michelle Williams, and Reka Wrynn.

Matthew Brokman and Hugh McDonald were also in attendance.

The Executive Session ended at 11:06 a.m., and the Board returned to Open Session at 11:12 a.m.

2. Chairman's Report

(a) Matters Outstanding

Board Chair Toscano welcomed new University Senate Representatives, Dr. Lindsay Cummings, Ms. Carrier Fernandes, and Dr. Horea Ilies, whose terms began on July 1st.

Chairman Toscano acknowledged recent news coverage on potential opportunities for growth at UConn Health, and he highlighted an upcoming presentation on the regional campus strategic plans by Provost D'Alleva.

Chairman Toscano congratulated Provost D'Alleva's on her new role as President of SUNY Binghamton, and he recognized Provost D'Alleva's contributions and service to UConn over her 26-year career. Board Chair Toscano also recognized Vice President for Research, Entrepreneurship and Innovation Pamir Alpay who will serve as Interim Provost following Dr. D'Alleva's departure on October 3rd.

Board Chair Toscano highlighted several naming recommendations on the Board's Consent Agenda, representing the generosity of Elizabeth DeLuca and her family.

Board Chair Toscano thanked Rachel S. Rubin, retired Executive Secretary to the Board of Trustees, for her 16 years of service to the Board. Chairman Toscano appointed Nicole Gelston, University General Counsel, as the new Executive Secretary to the Board of Trustees.

(b) Board Recognition

Board Chair Toscano introduced the resolution to honor Jeanine A. Gouin's service and commitment as one of the alumni representatives on the Board.

There was Board consensus to accept the resolution for former Trustee Gouin.

Chairman Toscano welcomed Diane W. Whitney to the Board as she began her term as one of the alumni representatives on the Board on September 1st.

(c) Minutes of the Meetings of June 25, July 14, July 16, and July 30, 2025

On motion by Trustee Rubin, seconded by Trustee Bessette, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the meetings of June 25, July 14, July 16, and July 30, 2025.

Trustee Whitney abstained from voting on the Minutes.

(d) Consent Agenda Items:

On a motion by Trustee Bessette, seconded by Trustee Pollard, the Board voted to approve the Consent Agenda items.

Voting to approve, Trustee Bessette requested that the University review related public comments made earlier by Mark Okun regarding Attachments 5 and 6.

- (1) Contracts and Agreements
(Trustee Ritter abstained from voting on Attachment 1) (Attachment 1)
- (2) Fiscal Year 2025 Capital Expenditures (Attachment 2)
- (3) Endowment of Certain Funds Received from The Estate of Patricia Anthony (Attachment 3)
- (4) Annual Report of the Endowed Chair Program Entitled "Aetna English Chair of Writing" (Attachment 4)
- (5) Six (6) Proposed Easements with Wilhusky Housing LLC concerning development of Site A of off-campus student housing, The Mark on North Eagleville Road (Attachment 5)
- (6) Cooperation Agreement with Wilhusky Housing LLC concerning development of Site A of off-campus student housing, The Mark on North Eagleville Road (Attachment 6)
- (7) Project Budget (Revised Final) – Academic & Research Facilities – Gant Building Renovations – STEM (Attachment 7)
- (8) Project Budget (Revised Final) – Northwest Residential Area – Thermal Comfort Improvements (Attachment 8)
- (9) Project Budget (Final) – Housing Refresh Program Summer 2026 (Attachment 9)
- (10) Project Budget (Revised Final) – Babbidge Library HVAC Equipment Upgrades Phases 1, 2 & 3 (Attachment 10)
- (11) Project Budget (Final) – Foster Hall Flood Damage Abatement & Restoration (Attachment 11)
- (12) Project Budget (Planning) – UConn Health New PET/CT Scanner Installation (Attachment 12)
- (13) Project Budget (Final) – UConn Health CGSB Chemical Storage Area Renovation (Attachment 13)
- (14) Project Budget (Final) – UConn Health TM416 MRI Upgrade & Mobile Unit (Attachment 14)
- (15) Project Budget (Final) – UConn Health Labor & Delivery Infant Protection System Replacement (Attachment 15)
- (16) Project Budget (Revised Final) – UConn Health BB013 Animal Research MRI Renovation (Attachment 16)
- (17) Project Budget (Revised Final) – UConn Health Parking Lots L1 & A5 Repaving (Attachment 17)
- (18) Project Budget (Revised Final) – UConn Health KB034-036 Research Lab Renovation (Attachment 18)
- (19) Project Budget (Revised Final) – UConn Health New England Sickle Cell Institute Renovation (Attachment 19)

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| (20) | Project Budget (Final) – UConn Health Connecticut Tower – 6th Floor Infusion Center | (Attachment 20) |
| (21) | Naming Recommendation for the Elisabeth DeLuca School of Nursing | (Attachment 21) |
| (22) | Naming Recommendation for DeLuca Hall | (Attachment 22) |
| (23) | Naming Recommendation for Adomat Hall in the School of Nursing | (Attachment 23) |
| (24) | Naming Recommendation for the McLeod Health Assessment Lab in the School of Nursing | (Attachment 24) |
| (25) | Naming Recommendation for the Maria K. Tackett NURS 1972, NURS 1994 Faculty Office in the School of Nursing | (Attachment 25) |
| (26) | Naming Recommendation for the Daniel and Frances Presnick Faculty Office in the School of Nursing | (Attachment 26) |
| (27) | Naming Recommendation for the George Leigh Minor Plant and Soil Health Center in the College of Agriculture, Health and Natural Resources | (Attachment 27) |
| (28) | Naming Recommendation for the Keith B. Johnson Board Room in the School of Business | (Attachment 28) |
| (29) | Naming Recommendation for the Charles J. Burstone Center of Excellence for Research and Education in the School of Dental Medicine | (Attachment 29) |
| (30) | Naming Recommendation for the Zigun Family Classroom in the School of Medicine | (Attachment 30) |
| (31) | Naming Recommendation for the Abrahms Family Learning Specialist Office in the Bailey Student-Athlete Success Center | (Attachment 31) |
| (32) | Proposed Changes to the By-Laws of the University of Connecticut – Article IX – The University Senate | (Attachment 32) |
| (33) | Proposed Changes to the By-Laws of the University of Connecticut | (Attachment 33) |

(a) Election of Board Secretary and Committee Chairs

Upon the nomination and motion by Trustee Dennis-LaVigne, seconded by Trustee Cantor, the Board voted to reappoint Trustee Pollard as Secretary to the Board.

(Trustee Pollard abstained from voting.)

Chairman Toscano recommend that Trustee Dennis-LaVigne continue as Vice-Chair who shall act as Chair of the Board in case of the absence or incapacity of the Chair.

Chairman Toscano recommended the following Committee Chairs, and Board Vice-Chairs:

Academic Affairs – Trustee Cantor

Buildings, Grounds and Environment – Trustee Gandara

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion – Trustee Dennis-LaVigne

Compensation – Trustee Bunnell

Financial Affairs – Trustee Bessette
Institutional Advancement – Trustee Dennis-LaVigne
Joint Audit & Compliance (UConn and UConn and UConn Health) – Trustee Boxer
Research, Entrepreneurship and Innovation – Trustee Rubin
Student Life – Trustee Pollard
UConn Health Board of Directors – Trustee Driscoll
Liaison to the Division of Athletics – Trustee O'Connor

On a motion by Trustee Whitney, seconded by Trustee Ritter, the Board voted unanimously to appoint the aforementioned Committee Chairs to the standing Board Committees and Trustee O'Connor as the liaison to the Division of Athletics.

3. President's Report
4. University Senate Report
Senate Executive Committee Chair, Dr. Robert Day
5. Academic Affairs Committee Report
 - (a) Report on Committee activities
 - (b) Presentation: Regional Campus Strategic Plans, Provost D'Alleva
6. Financial Affairs Committee Report
 - (a) Report on Committee activities
7. Informational Item:
 - (1) Fiscal Year 2026 UConn and UConn Health Budget Update (Attachment 34)
8. UConn Health Report
 - (a) Report on UConn Health activities
9. Joint Audit and Compliance Committee Report
 - (a) Report on Committee activities
 - (b) Informational Item:
 - (1) Audit of Projects: UConn 2000 Infrastructure Program Year Ended June 30, 2024 (Connecticut General Statutes Section 10a-109z) (Attachment 35)
10. Buildings, Grounds and Environment Committee Report
 - (a) Report on Committee activities
11. Student Life Committee Report
 - (a) Report on Committee activities
12. Institutional Advancement Committee Report
 - (a) Report on Committee activities
13. Committee for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Report
There was no Committee report.

14. Committee on Compensation Report
 - (a) Report on Committee activities
15. Committee for Research, Entrepreneurship and Innovation Report
There was no Committee report.
16. Other Business
17. Executive Session

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by Trustee Bessette, seconded by Trustee Rubin, the Board voted unanimously to go into Executive Session at 12:28 p.m. regarding:

1. CGS 1-200(6) E) discussion of any matter which would result in the disclosure of public records or the information contained therein described in subsection (b) of section 1-210;
2. CGS 1-210(b)(1): Preliminary drafts or notes provided the public agency has determined that the public interest in withholding such documents clearly outweighs the public interest in disclosure;
3. CGS 1-210(b)(5)(A): Trade secrets, which for purposes of the Freedom of Information Act, are defined as information, including formulas, patterns, compilations, programs, devices, methods, techniques, processes, drawings, cost data, customer lists, film or television scripts or detailed production budgets that (i) derive independent economic value, actual or potential, from not being generally known to, and not being readily ascertainable by proper means by, other persons who can obtain economic value from their disclosure or use, and (ii) are the subject of efforts that are reasonable under the circumstances to maintain secrecy; and (B) Commercial or financial information given in confidence, not required by statute;
4. CGS 1-210(b)(9): Records, reports and statements of strategy or negotiations with respect to collective bargaining; and
5. CGS 1-210(b)(10): Records, tax returns, reports and statements exempted by federal law or the general statutes or communications privileged by the attorney-client relationship, marital relationship, clergy-penitent relationship, doctor-patient relationship, therapist-patient relationship or any other privilege established by the common law or the general statutes, including any such records, tax returns, reports or communications that were created or made prior to the establishment of the applicable privilege under the common law or the general statutes.

The following Trustees were in attendance: Bessette, Cantor, Dennis-LaVigne, Dunn, Nayden, Pollard, Ritter, Rubin, Saccomanno, Toscano, and Whitney.

Natalie Wagner, Governor Lamont's designee, was also in attendance.

The following University Staff attended the entirety of the Executive Session: President Maric, Anne D'Alleva, Gail Garber, Nicole Gelston, Jeffrey Geoghegan, Philip Hunt, Michael Kirk, Joann Lombardo, Michelle Williams, Nathan Fuerst, and Reka Wrynn.

The following University Staff attended a portion of the Executive Session: David Benedict, Jessica Chrabaszcz, Annie Fiorvanti, Jonathan Heinlein, and Nathan LaVallee.

Janet Judge was also in attendance for a portion of the Executive Session.

The Executive Session ended at 1:59 p.m., and the Board returned to Open Session at 2:00 p.m.

17. Adjournment

On a motion by Trustee Saccomanno, seconded by Trustee Rubin, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting. The Board meeting adjourned at 2:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bryan K. Pollard
Secretary