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Senator urges cut in Yale's funding

BY ANAYAH ACCILIEN AND SARAH RIVAS
STAFF REPORTERS

Sen. Rick Scott called on Friday for the federal government to cut off funding from Yale over the Yale Political Union's decision to host the left-wing streamer Hasan Piker, who previously suggested that Scott should be killed.

Scott — a Florida Republican who spoke at the political union last semester in favor of the resolution "Buy American" — posted on X that the government should "IMMEDIATELY revoke" Yale's federal funding.

While Republicans were developing President Donald Trump's 2025 "One Big Beautiful Bill," Piker said during a livestream — responding to comments by House Speaker Mike Johnson that Republicans were focusing on Medicaid fraud — that "if you cared about Medicare fraud or Medicaid fraud, you would kill Rick Scott." Scott was the chief executive of a hospital company that later paid $1.7 billion in settlements to the government relating to fraud.

Piker, a controversial Twitch streamer and political commentator, is scheduled to speak at the

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Abby Assouad / Staff Photographer

Three more college deans leaving roles

BY OLIVIA WOO
STAFF REPORTER

Three residential college deans announced Friday that they will be leaving their posts at the end of the semester, doubling the number of deans' departures announced in the past month.

In emails sent simultaneously to their respective residential college communities, Branford Dean María del Mar Galindo GRD '22, Grace Hopper Dean David Francis and Timothy Dwight Dean Sarah Mahurin GRD '11 each shared that they would continue to work as university administrators, but in different capacities — Galindo as an administrator at Colby College in Maine, and Francis and Mahurin as Yale College associate deans.

"These three all told me this week about their decisions and we coordinated the announcements so it would be more efficient," Yale College Dean Pericles Lewis wrote to the News on Sunday. "Since a lot of academic administration jobs start July 1, it is very common to give notice in early April to allow about three months for finding a successor."

On March 17, Lewis sent an email to the Berkeley College community announcing that Bárbara Cruvinel Santiago '17 had departed her role as dean during spring recess. A week later, Silliman Dean Tycie Coppett announced that she would be stepping down to serve as an interim assistant dean at Yale College, and, a week after that, Davenport Dean Adam Ployd announced that he would leave the role to to take on a new administrative role at the Yale Divinity School.

Lewis said in a Wednesday interview that the quick succession of the first three departures was coincidental, and he wrote

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English sections slashed due to cuts

BY JAEHA JANG
STAFF REPORTER

The English department has nearly halved the number of sections of an introductory writing course, from 32 last fall to 17 this fall, as budget cuts constrain academic offerings at Yale.

In addition to that decrease in the fall sections of English 1014, "Writing Seminars," the number for English 1020, "Reading and Writing the Modern Essay," has dropped from 17 to 14.

The reductions are among the latest impacts on undergraduate academics of budget pressure in anticipation of an upcoming endowment tax hike. They come on top of decisions not to renew the contracts of several instructional faculty members, which the Faculty of Arts and Sciences dean described as being affected by budget "trade-offs."

"These reductions were imposed upon us by the FAS Teaching Resource Advisory Committee, which has also imposed an increase in class size," Feisal Mohamed, the English department's director of undergraduate studies, wrote in an email to the News. "As a department, we are deeply concerned that the incoming class will not be able to find seats in introductory writing courses, and that those who do will receive less individualized attention."

English 1014 and English 1020 are both listed on the English department's website as introductory courses. Steven Wilkinson, the dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, wrote in a Sunday email to the News that his office asked the English department to increase

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Ellie Park / Senior Photographer



William Qian / Staff Photographer

Candidates debate how to bolster YCC

BY ANAYAH ACCILIEN AND SARA AGRAWAL
STAFF REPORTERS

Around 75 students gathered in a Linsly-Chittenden Hall classroom to listen to a Sunday evening debate between candidates running for positions on the Yale College Council.

Three debates — for president, vice president and events director of the organization — took place in the span of two-and-a-half hours. Andrew Boanoh '27 and Jaden Bradley '27, the current president and vice president, moderated the debate, in which candidates gave opening statements, responded to general questions and gave brief rebuttals. They then fielded candidate-specific questions and questions from the audience.

As of Sunday, only four candidates were still running for president. On Thursday, when campaigning began, six students were running for the position, but Cemre Keles '28 and Remy Strichartz '29 dropped out of the race before Sunday evening's debate. Four students remain in the race for vice president, and three for events director.

Sahra Wahedi '27, who is running for president, emphasized her "institutional memory" as a rising senior and a long-time representative in the student government. Wahedi was a representative on the First-Year College Council and has been a Pierson College senator for two years.

"Unfortunately, the bureaucracies of the YCC run deep, but I have the experience to change the system from within," Wahedi said in her opening statement.

John Robert Walker '28, another presidential candidate, emphasized that the YCC should function as a public advocate for the student body to ensure that administrators listen to students, faculty, workers and

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Two alumni vying for trustee seat

BY LEO NYBERG
STAFF REPORTER

Two candidates, an executive at a performing arts center and a medical entrepreneur, are squaring off to become a trustee on the Yale Corporation.

The Corporation, Yale's board of trustees, is the governing body that steers the University's long-term priorities and investments. The Corporation's bylaws call for 16 trustees — 10 successor trustees, who are chosen by the board, and six alumni fellows, who are elected for six-year terms by alumni. Three ex-officio trustees, the University president and Connecticut's governor and lieutenant governor, are also on the board. The alumni fellow candidates were chosen by Yale's Alumni Fellow Nominating Committee.

"Your vote to select a candidate who will bring valuable perspective and expertise to our board is vital in shaping Yale's future," Yale President Maurie McInnis wrote in a letter preceding the candidate biographies.

The alumni fellow election opened after a 2022 lawsuit contesting how alumni can be nominated as candidates for the election was rejected last month by the Connecticut Supreme Court. The suit, levied by Victor Ashe '67 and Donald Glascoff Jr. '67, attempted to restore the alumni petitioning process, which allowed candidates to petition for a spot rather than be nominated.

Yale College alumni who have held degrees for over five years and all graduate school alumni are eligible to vote between Michael Singer '95 GRD '00 '02, an ophthalmologist and self-described "serial entrepreneur," and Mariko Silver '99, the president and CEO of the Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts in New York.

An alumni fellow election webpage includes circa-600-word statements from Singer and Silver as well as videos of the candidates answering what makes a Yale education unique and what higher education should contribute to society in the next ten years. Singer's response touched on trust, while Silver emphasized the value of research.

Candidates traditionally do not campaign for the role, according to the elections webpage.

"During this time of uncertainty for higher education," McInnis wrote in her letter, she

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Democrats mull governor choices

BY NELLIE KENNEY
STAFF REPORTER

Seventy-four delegates from New Haven — one of the largest delegations in Connecticut — will vote on the next Democratic nominee for governor of Connecticut next month.

New Haven's delegates are set to convene in Hartford on May 16, along with about 2,000 other delegates from across the state, to vote for candidates in a number of statewide executive offices, including governor, lieutenant governor and attorney general. The candidates who get the most votes at the convention will receive the party's formal nomination in advance of a primary election this August.

Currently, only one of the seats in the lineup is contested — the governor's. Incumbent Gov. Ned Lamont SOM '80 is squaring off against Hamden's state Rep. Josh Elliott, who has pitched himself as a more progressive option.

"People err on the side of incumbency, but I do believe that this is a different election where I think people are going to want to see more to elect someone for a

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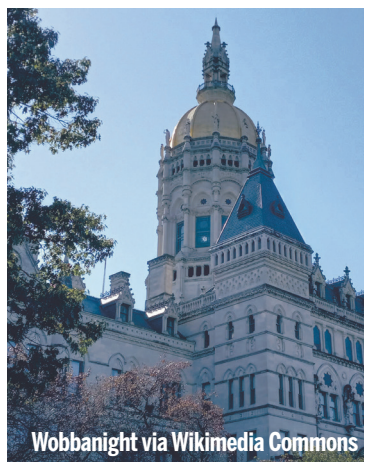

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Inside The News

The News' music critic reviewed the Battle of the Bands, the annual contest to determine which student group will play at Spring Fling.

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TUITION HIKE Yale College's tuition and fees next will total $94,100 per student, a 3.92 percent increase.
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SCULPTURE "Passages," an exhibition at the New Haven Creative Arts Workshop that considers themes related to trauma and displacement, will be on display until Saturday.
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