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YuLin Zhen, Photography Editor

CITY-UNIVERSITY DEAL

Yale's yearly grant to top $33 million

BY ELIJAH HUREWITZ-RAVITCH
STAFF REPORTER

Yale's payments to New Haven will total over $230 million in the next seven years under a new agreement that significantly increases the University's pledged voluntary contributions to the city budget, University President Maurie McInnis and Mayor Justin Elicker announced at City Hall earlier this month.

The annual payment will increase to around $29.9 million next fiscal year and reach $33.6 million in fiscal year 2033. The University has contributed some $23 or $24 million to the city each fiscal year since 2021, when Yale and New Haven negotiators reached their last deal on the voluntary contribution.

"It is gratifying to be able to say that Yale is increasing our voluntary payment to New Haven," McInnis said at a press conference on Friday, March 6, as Yale College's spring break began. Her announcement of the new $230 million total elicited a round of applause from the 100-odd people in attendance at City Hall.

In her remarks, McInnis discussed financial uncertainty under the Trump administration, which has so far spared Yale from targeted federal

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McInnis home on sale in Hamden

BY ARIA LYNN-SKOV
STAFF REPORTER

At her inauguration last spring, University President Maurie McInnis GRD '90 '96 said she "found a second home in New Haven" as a Yale graduate student and mentioned her "small apartment on Chapel Street." In her speech at the opening assembly for the class of 2029, McInnis described New Haven as the "vibrant city we're lucky to call home." And this month, McInnis announced that Yale would contribute increasing sums to New Haven's budget in the coming years.

But, since returning to Yale as president in 2024, McInnis hasn't lived in New Haven full time.

Property records reviewed by the News identify Dean Johnson,

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Logan Dinkins, Staff Photographer

Education secretary to visit Yale

BY LEO NYBERG
STAFF REPORTER

The United States' secretary of education, Linda McMahon, will speak next month at an event hosted by the Buckley Institute, an organization that describes itself as a hub for "intellectual diversity" and "enlightened conservative thought" at Yale.

McMahon, who has run President Donald Trump's Department of Education for over a year, is slated to speak about diversity, gender and the department's role in American education policy, according to an event description. This is the first time the Buckley Speaker Series has hosted one of Trump's cabinet members since the beginning of his second term.

"Secretary McMahon's perspective is critical for understanding the challenges faced by and the path forward for American education, from kindergarten through graduate school," Lauren Noble '11 — Buckley's executive director — wrote in an email to the News.

McMahon's higher education agenda has included investigations into antisemitism and diversity programs on college campuses, including Yale. Under McMahon, the Education Department has canceled billions of dollars worth of federal grants to universities across the country.

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Where glass becomes Yale's cement

BY MICHELLE SO
STAFF REPORTER

3.5 million glass bottles on the wall. 3.5 million glass bottles. Take one down, pass it around, and it might end up as cement in Yale's Physical Sciences and Engineering Building under construction.

Yale's ongoing construction on upper Science Hill will feature 600,000 gross square feet for the School of Engineering and Applied Science and more. In accordance with Yale's promise to achieve net-zero carbon emissions on campus by 2035 and zero actual carbon emissions by 2050, the development will include a thermal utilities plant that will produce energy for the facilities.

But even if operations are sustained by on-site energy production, creating a building from raw materials is quite carbon-intensive. Instead, some of Yale's building materials will use Pozzotive, an industrial filler made from recycled glass such as drink bottles — the equivalent of 3.5 million of them, to be precise, according to a slideshow used during a recent tour of the glass recycling facility.

At the tour last month, organized by several students at Yale's School of the Environment, a group of Yale affiliates explored Urban Mining Industries's facility in Beacon Falls, Connecticut, where recycled glass is processed and turned into a powdery building material known as pozzolan.

Concrete is an essential building material for modern-day structures. Standard concrete consists of aggregate like pebbles or gravel, sand, water and cement — the powdered binding agent, often confused with concrete, that gives concrete its integrity.

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Michelle So, Contributing Photographer

Reduced magazine expects fewer clicks

BY KIVA BANK
STAFF REPORTER

Last month, The Yale Review's executive editor, Meghan O'Rourke '97, announced on Instagram that the literary journal would adjust its operations due to University-wide budget reductions that are a part of Yale's preparation for the impending endowment tax hike.

The annual Yale Review Festival was cancelled for this spring, and the magazine will reduce its online content to keep its website free and instead prioritize print, according to an Instagram announcement and an email The Yale Review and O'Rourke sent to subscribers. Since the launch of the journal's website in 2021, which features digitized print editions and online-specific content, readership has reached numbers of nearly a million people online, according to O'Rourke.

O'Rourke expects the decrease in online publishing to cause a "substantial reduction" in readership of The Yale Review due to the diminishing likelihood of people converting to print subscriptions. She said the digitized version of the print edition will remain available for free online.

"It's unfortunate that the endowment tax was passed at a moment when we were already kind of stretched past our budgetary realities and looking for ways to create sustainability," O'Rourke said in a phone interview.

The magazine publishes essays, fiction, poetry and criticism, and O'Rourke said it has experienced significant growth since she became executive editor in 2019. O'Rourke said that some of President Donald Trump's early cuts to other schools' funding in the spring of 2025 prepared The Yale Review for the possibility of having to reduce its budget.

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First casting Oscar goes to picker of Yale professor

BY KIVA BANK
STAFF REPORTER

The film "One Battle After Another" swept the Oscars last Sunday in one win after another, securing Best Casting for the selection of an ensemble that included a seemingly unlikely member — Paul Grimstad, a Yale lecturer and the director of undergraduate studies of the humanities program.

Directed by Paul Thomas Anderson, the film follows an ex-revolutionary, played by Leonardo DiCaprio, as he searches for his missing daughter while being hunted by a deranged colonel from his past. Grimstad plays Howard "Billy Goat" Sommerville, the radio coordinator for the radical group, and his capture catapults the film into action.

Grimstad previously played a supporting role in Ronald Bronstein's 2007 film "Frownland" and also appeared in the Oscar-nominated film "Marty Supreme."

"Everybody's got a part somewhere in them, a part to play," Cassandra Kulukundis, the film's casting director, said in a phone interview with the News. Kulukundis won the first ever Academy Award for Best Casting last Sunday.

Although the cast features known actors like DiCaprio, Teyana Taylor, Regina Hall and Benicio del Toro, Grimstad's background was not uncommon for Kulukundis' casting habits.

"A lot of people I put in movies never did another movie again, had no interest in doing another movie," Kulukundis said.

She said she originally wanted to cast Bronstein for the role of Sommerville, but he suggested Grimstad instead.

Grimstad said he has been friends and collaborators with Bronstein for years.

"The casting process came out of the blue and was at first disorienting," Grimstad wrote in an email to the News.

Grimstad said that he is more accustomed to working as a composer on films, including Bronstein's "Frownland" and "Heaven Knows What" directed by the Safdie brothers.

In an email to the News, Grimstad said he initially assumed that

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Inside The News

Over spring break Bárbara Cruvinel Santiago departed from her role as Berkeley College dean.

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ENGLISH STATION The Board of Alders approved a proposal to allow the city of New Haven to acquire the abandoned power plant.

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MEN'S BASKETBALL At the National Invitation Tournament, the Bulldogs racked up a season of ups and downs.

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