

News

Interim dean for business school named as UConn searches for new dean

by **Harika Goteti**

CAMPUS CORRESPONDENT
SHE/HER/HERS
hag23010@uconn.edu

The University of Connecticut has named an interim dean for the School of Business as the university begins searching for a new dean.

Robert Day will be serving as the interim dean for the school starting on May 15, according to UConn Today. Day was an

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ROBERT DAY

associate dean in the School of Business and a professor in the Operations and Information Management Department at UConn, and has taught at UConn

for 22 years.

During his time as associate dean for the School of Business, the school had three associate deans overseeing three areas: research and faculty, graduate programs and undergraduate programs. Day served in the role of associate dean for undergraduate programs for approximately five and a half years.

Day also served on the Senate Executive Committee, which “works closely with university leadership.”

“That role has given me a broad understanding of how the university operates at the institutional level,” Day said.

UConn Today reported that the School of Business enrolls around 4,500 students in total, with over 3,300 undergraduates and 1,200 graduate students.

Day mentioned that a lot of what the School of Business leadership and administrative team work on isn’t always directly visible to students.

“One important goal is making sure the right faculty are in the right roles and that they are properly supported and compensated for additional responsibilities,” Day said. “I



The exterior of the School of Business on UConn's Storrs campus. Professor Robert Day will serve as the interim dean of the business school. PHOTO COURTESY OF @UCONN ON INSTAGRAM.

also want to continue supporting programs like FLIP, which helps high school students, especially first-generation students, gain exposure to college and feel more comfortable applying and attending.”

Another key priority is strengthening collaboration across departments and schools, helping ensure they are working together rather than in isolation.

Day said to UConn Today

that he is excited to strengthen artificial intelligence education, as well as further developing experiential learning and broadening access for the increasing number of students interested in the business field.

“AI is similar to calculators,” Day said. “Calculators are useful, but students still need to understand the fundamentals first. Likewise, students should learn core skills before relying on AI tools.”

Day said he tends to approach problems analytically because of his Ph.D. in applied mathematics, but also values being approachable and collaborative.

“Leadership involves balancing difficult decisions, limited resources, and different perspectives. I try to listen to all sides, avoid rushing to judgment, and find solutions that work for as many people as possible.”

Gov. Ned Lamont faces projections of first budget deficit



Gov. Ned Lamont and Thomas Kastouleas, the former president of UConn, speaking on stage together at The Westport Library in Westport, Conn. Lamont might be facing his first budget deficit since being elected. PHOTO COURTESY OF NED LAMONT ON FACEBOOK

by **Keren Salazar Mercado**

CAMPUS CORRESPONDENT
SHE/HER/HERS
peu25001@uconn.edu

Connecticut is facing a projected \$6 million budget deficit under Gov. Ned Lamont's administration, the first of his tenure since taking office in 2019.

The projected shortfall remains less than a formal deficit — approximately 0.02% of the \$27.2 billion of the General Fund. The gap is considered minor by fiscal standard, but

its emergence after years of surpluses has drawn attention from cross-party according to CT Mirror.

Since Lamont took office in 2019, money saved from withholdings from tax receipts and special savings programs have been used to build reserves and pay down pension debt, according to News from the States.

Republican legislative leaders have stated how Lamont and fellow Democrats in the state General Assembly have abandoned

honest budgeting and how the shortfall wouldn't exist if the state still followed the pre-2017 budget, according to News from the States.

However, State Comptroller Sean Scanlon said with the budgeting resources the administration has set aside, the state will be able to overcome this deficit.

“Thanks to the progress we've made, the governor and legislature have numerous ways to address this small gap,” Scanlon said.

Connecticut has a record-breaking \$4.3 billion in its emergency reserve, also referred to as the rainy-day fund, in addition to \$1.8 billion in the income and company tax savings program, according to News from the States.

Legislators built a 1% cushion, which is roughly \$300 million, into this year's General Fund, and income and sales tax receipts have come in hundreds of millions of dollars above projections, according to CT Mirror.

Scanlon has acknowledged that federal policy changes have eaten into the state's revenue, pointing specifically to the corporate tax system.

Connecticut, like several other states, ties its corporate

tax code to the federal tax code. When Congress and President Donald Trump extended federal corporate tax breaks last July that had been set to expire, it had immediate downstream consequences for state coffers. Corporate tax receipts have now come in \$352 million below projections as a result, according to CT Mirror.

Unstable markets in 2026 due to the ongoing conflict between U.S. and Iran and President Donald Trump's tariffs can undercut the healthy stock-drive growth that has so far supported Connecticut's income and business tax projections. However, Connecticut's projected income and business tax receipts due this spring stems majorly from 2025 stock performance, which indicates healthy growth, according to Hartford Business. Although the high 2025 stock market performance is mostly reflected in Connecticut's predicted spring tax receipts, keeping in mind that persistent market volatility in 2026 could undermine future projections.

In addition to external pressures, state officials have admitted that Connecticut did not appropriately budget for some constitutionally required expenses, most notably Medicaid.

Medicaid is a federal entitlement program that mandates states to provide coverage to all eligible residents, so the state cannot limit enrollment to maintain financial stability.



Ned Lamont speaking at speaking at a “Your State, Your Business” event on April 13, 2026. Lamont might be facing his first budget deficit since being elected in 2019.

PHOTO COURTESY OF NED LAMONT ON FACEBOOK

The Daily Campus

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