The Daily Campus

130 YEARS Serving UConn since 1896

Volume CXXX, Issue no. 48 | Thursday, November 12, 2026 | dailycampus.com

LIFE | PAGE 6



THE INDIE ITCH

4 deceptively simple free games to keep your brain active

OPINION | PAGE 7



PATRICK'S POLITICS

We should abolish the Electoral College

SPORTS | PAGE 12



WBB PREVIEW

No. 4 UConn travels to Columbus for matchup against No. 18 Ohio State

SPORTS EVENTS OF THE WEEK

MEN'S BASKETBALL
Nov. 9 | 9 p.m. | Storrs, Conn.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
Nov. 12 | 6:30 p.m. | Columbus, Ohio

WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY
Nov. 13 | Farmingdale, NY

WOMEN'S HOCKEY
Nov. 13 | 2 p.m. | Storrs, Conn.

VOLLEYBALL
Nov. 13 | 6 p.m. | Storrs, Conn.

MEN'S HOCKEY
Nov. 13 | 7 p.m. | Storrs, Conn.

MEN'S BASKETBALL
Nov. 13 | 7:30 p.m. | Hartford, Conn.

FOOTBALL
Nov. 14 | Noon | East Hartford, Conn.

WOMEN'S HOCKEY
Nov. 14 | 2 p.m. | Providence, RI

VOLLEYBALL
Nov. 14 | 3 p.m. | Storrs, Conn.

MEN'S HOCKEY
Nov. 14 | 3 p.m. | Hartford, Conn.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
Nov. 15 | 5:30 p.m. | Louisville, KY

THE DAILY CAMPUS
1266 STORRS ROAD
STORRS, CT 06269

FOR MORE...
dailycampus.com
The_DailyCampus
The_DailyCampus
The Daily Campus

MEME OF THE DAY



Mansfield Town Council talks flock cameras, environmental issues

by Kevin Guinan | ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR | HE/HIM/HIS | kcg21003@uconn.edu

Mansfield Mayor Ben Shaiken dismissed concerns the town installed Flock Safety devices and heard residents on an invasive species impacting Mansfield Hollow State Park at a town council meeting Monday.

The dismissal came after Republican council member William "Bill" Tomecko asked Shaiken to address a Oct. 28 message to the council from Storrs resident Deborah Dancy. Dancy asked about the number of Flock or Axion cameras in town and said she was concerned because "they are everywhere."

"The devices that she was concerned [about] are some of the new devices that the state Department of Transportation has installed around traffic signals. They look a little funky, they're like bell shaped, but they're not cameras. They're just a new technology for figuring out when to turn the lights red and green," Shaiken said, adding that he already talked to Dancy about it.

Dancy wasn't the only resident Shaiken said reached out about the Flock cameras. He said the council received many inquiries from residents and advocacy groups alike concerned about privacy and technology like Flock being installed around town.

"We do not have any mounted license plate readers in town, [we have] our own police force. There's no system set up or anything like that," Shaiken said.

While Shaiken said the town wasn't installing Flock cameras, he was uncertain about the types of surveillance equipment used by the University of Connecticut in Storrs.

"UConn has a camera system, and I don't know the details of it, and so there are certainly whole mounted cameras throughout the University of Connecticut campus. I don't know which brand they are, whether they're license plate readers or anything like that," Shaiken said.

Environmental issues were also a focus at the meeting with public comment concerning an invasive plant species and updates from the committees for sustainability and park and natural resources.

See COUNCIL, p. 2



Several members of the Town Council sit in the Mansfield Town Center on Monday, Nov. 9, 2026. This was Ben Shaiken's first Town Council meeting as the mayor of Mansfield.

PHOTO BY MICHAEL JEFFERS, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

UConn proposes tuition freeze, $1,000 increase in fees and living costs for 2027-28

by Garrett Saxonhouse | CONTRIBUTOR | HE/HIM/HIS | dmo25007@uconn.edu

The University of Connecticut hosted a virtual town hall on Tuesday to discuss proposed tuition and fee changes for the 2027-28 academic year, including a third consecutive tuition freeze and approximately $1,000 in additional fees and living costs for the average student residing at Storrs.

Student fee proposals have historically been presented to students and faculty for comment in November, with the UConn Board of Trustees normally approving them in December.

The presentation was led by UConn's new chief financial officer, Anthony Rini, who emphasized that university stakeholders are "laser focused on affordability."

Rini cited an admitted student survey that found more than 60% of students considered cost and financial aid important factors in their college decisions. He also noted that UConn's financial aid, distributed through grants and scholarships, has increased 91% since 2019.

Despite the proposed tuition freeze, Rini explained that rising operating costs have prompted the university to propose increases in several mandatory fees, along with housing and dining rates.

Under the proposal, total costs would increase by 2.7% for in-state students and 1.7% for out-of-state students.

The largest proposed increase would come from housing, with rates rising by $400 for the academic year. Rini attributed the increase to rising operating costs and infrastructure investments, including repairs to residence hall boilers.

The second-largest increase would come from the general university fee, which would rise by $248 for Storrs students. The fee supports several university services and programs including athletics, the marching band, the One Card Office and the Student Union. Students purchasing meal plans at Storrs would also see a $200 increase in dining costs. Rini attributed the increase to rising food, labor and delivery expenses.

The infrastructure maintenance fee would increase by $80 annually to help service debt associated with the South Campus residence halls and support operations and maintenance at facilities constructed through the UConn 2000 initiative.

Projects associated with the initiative include residence halls, Gampel Pavilion and the School of Nursing.

In September, UConn's Board of Trustees approved an additional $21.3 million for renovations to the aging heating, ventilation and air conditioning system at Harry A. Gampel Pavilion. The board also approved $13.75 million to complete unfinished interior space at the new Elisabeth DeLuca School of Nursing.

The university is also proposing a $22 increase in the transit fee, citing a new contract with the Windham Regional Transit District and rising U-Pass costs.

Additionally, the technology fee would increase by $40 to support improvements to technological infrastructure across campus.

The student activity fee could increase by as much as $10. During the spring semester, the Student Activity and Service Fee Advisory Committee will hold hearings to determine funding needs for student organizations, including The Daily Campus, Nutmeg Publishing and WHUS Radio.

If the committee determines that a smaller increase is sufficient, the proposed $10 increase could be reduced.

Fees supporting Student Health and Wellness and the Student Recreation Center would remain unchanged for the 2027-28 academic year.

Students seeking additional information about the proposed increases will have another opportunity to ask questions at an in-person town hall today at noon in Room 304B of the Student Union.



The UConn sign on the edge of the Storrs campus. Vice President of Finance and Chief Financial Officer Anthony Rini emphasized that university stakeholders are "laser focused on affordability."

PHOTO COURTESY OF FLICKR

UConn updates the Active Transportation Plan with a new study

by Hope Melk
STAFF WRITER
SHE/HER/HERS
hope.melk@uconn.edu

The University of Connecticut and the Town of Mansfield undertook a large traffic, pedestrian, bicycle and scooter safety study in and around UConn's campus during the week of Oct. 26, according to the UConn Student Daily Digest.

University Spokesperson Stephanie Reitz said this study was conducted as part of the Safe Streets and Roads for UConn project, which builds upon the university's Active Transportation Plan that took place in 2022.

According to its website, the project works to strengthen the university's focus on transportation safety.

"The UConn Storrs Campus is a dynamic place where students, faculty, staff, and visitors are constantly on the move," according to the website. "In many ways a small city, campus invites pedestrians, cyclists, bus riders, drivers, and other travelers into a complex transportation network, but this complexity introduces opportunities for conflict, near misses, and crashes."

According to the Daily Digest, data was collected through the use of video camera equipment.

Reitz said the count cameras, which recorded multimodal traffic volumes, were located at intersections, crosswalks and paths in and around UConn's campus.

The data was used to quantify the number of roadway and path users during different time periods, Retiz said.

Reitz said the camera footage is "generally anonymized." She said because of the camera's low resolution, identifying features — like faces and license plates — are "typically not observable."

Reitz said the information gathered will help the university and its consultants better understand traffic patterns and will enable them to identify where future infrastructure development and improvements are most needed.

According to its website, the project includes four primary elements: a comprehensive safety action plan, development of a comprehensive mobility mode, a road conversion assessment and sidewalk inventory and accessibility assessment.

UConn established a steering committee to work alongside its transportation consultant, SLR Consulting, in the development and long-term implementation of the project, according to the project's website.

According to the website, the committee is made up of representatives from several university departments, Town of Mansfield officials and regional partners.

The study is being funded by UConn, the State of Connecticut and the U.S. Department of Transportation, Reitz said.

She said the project works to make routes "safer, more efficient, and sustainable."

"Making travel safer for everyone helps create a more welcoming campus and community," according to the project's website.

Reitz said the university has yet to review the count data or footage, but she said the counts will be available to the public.



A HuskyGo bus is stopped in traffic on Tuesday, Sept. 8, 2026. UConn is working on improving campus safety when it comes to transportation routes.

PHOTO BY MICHAEL JEFFERS, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS