News

SCHOLARS, cont. from p. 1

Mathieu has helped launch and grow hundreds of entrepreneurial start-ups, according to her profile. She is also a mentor for community organizations and serves on the advisory board for several emerging businesses.

"It's a very vulnerable place to be, to put your idea out into the world and have no idea what's going to happen when you do that," Mathieu said in an interview with The Daily Campus on Tuesday.

Mathieu said she is excited to be around other like-minded academics and said the celebration will show the "breadth and depth" of innovation happening around Connecticut.

"It's amazing to be around other UConn faculty and staff," Mathieu said. "To me, being named a finalist is the big victory, to be around such an esteemed group of women."

At UConn's Institute of Materials Sciences (IMS), Robbins serves as the co-director of the Industrial Affiliates Program (IAP).

IAP is a characterization facility that strives to develop valuable relationships with its industry partners to better understand their technology and business, according to the program's website.

UConn's Ghiaei was nominated in the "Community Innovation & Leadership" category. Ghiaei serves as the graduate outreach manager at UConn's College of Engineering.

"Through mentoring, outreach, leadership development, graduate recruitment, and community building, Ghiaei has supported more than 1,000 UConn students in reaching their academic and professional goals," the UConn Today article said.

Burke was nominated in the "Research Innovation and Leadership" category. She is an associate professor and department head of chemical and biomolecular engineering at UConn, according to her faculty profile.

Burke's profile highlights her work within the Polymer Program at UConn's IMS.

The Polymer Program serves as the state's center for graduate research and education programs focusing on polymer science and engineering, according to its website.

According to her profile, Burke's research "seeks to understand how biomaterials can be used to direct the behavior of the cells and the extracellular matrices that form human tissues, with a particular interest in the soft tissues of the gastrointestinal tract that have been damaged by disease and trauma."

Concluding UConn's list of finalists, Brooks was nominated in the "Collegian Innovation & Leadership" category.

Brooks is a fourth-year graduate student and a Ph.D. candidate in UConn's Department of Physics.

According to the UConn Today article, Brooks studies some of the farthest black holes and galaxies using the James Webb Space Telescope.

"I'm interested in looking at the observational signatures of black holes and how those relate to what's going on locally," Brooks said in an interview with the Daily Campus on Tuesday.

Brooks said she works closely alongside Dr. Jonathan Trump, an associate professor in physics, who she said encourages her to try new things and pushes her to be ambitious.

Brooks also said she works at Cynthia Wyeth Peterson Memorial Planetarium, where she is able to find more ways to connect with the community.

Brooks said she looks forward to expanding her network and connecting with women at different stages of their careers across various areas of academia.

The awards ceremony will take place on Tuesday, Oct. 27, from 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. at The Woodwinds in Branford.

PROTEST, cont. from p. 1

Protesters have focused their anger about the rising cost of living and high oil prices on French President Emmanuel Macron, according to USA Today.

The unrest also spread to historic landmarks, with some protesters directing their anger at buildings that form part of France's cultural heritage.

Reuters reported how a 143-year-old town hall in Limoges was largely destroyed by looters who broke the window in an arson attack.

"I thought that was what shocked me the most because it had survived both world wars and then got destroyed during the protests. It was so old and historical," Ndjadi said.

Macron spoke about his reaction to the protests on Sunday, according to USA Today.

"Looking at these images, we have all asked ourselves: What was going through their minds? How can French people do this to France," Macron said, appearing calm.

Marine Le Pen, leader of France's far-right National Rally party, also condemned the actions of the protesters, according to media group Stories Framing the Globe.

"We are going through a deep crisis of confidence and authority that poses a threat to democracy. This should serve as a warning to us: our country is being squeezed, if not held hostage, between violence and powerlessness," Le Pen said.

The matter also drew attention from other world leaders including Vice President JD Vance who posted on X, formerly known as Twitter, on Monday.

"I pray that France, a beautiful country of amazing people, will stop this madness before more of its landmarks burn," Vance's X post said.

President Donald Trump also expressed his opinion about the protests on his personal social media platform TruthSocial.

"What's happening in France is nothing less than out of control mass migration," Trump said, blaming the violent protesters on migrants.

Then in the post Trump claimed that the riots are not about education, but rather "about Islam wanting to take over a once great Country!"

French Foreign Minister Jean-Noël Barrot criticized foreign commentary like Trump's about the unrest, stating that France should "write its own story" rather than allowing others to do so, according to Turkish news agency Anadolu.

Some faculty at UConn also criticized commentary coming from world leaders about the protest. One example was Mary Allen, an assistant professor of French and Francophone studies in the Department of Literatures, Cultures and Languages.

"I am deeply disappointed, but not shocked, to learn that politicians like Marine LePen, J.D. Vance, and Donald Trump have all blamed recent civil unrest on immigration. Their scapegoating of immigrants is not new; it's a disgusting pattern and deserves our condemnation. This kind of rhetoric hurts people, and we need to be very clear in our rejection of this hate speech," Allen said in a statement to The Daily Campus.

Pope Leo's doctors say tests show he needs no further treatment for lung cancer

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Pope Leo XIV got good news from his doctors: The pontiff will need no further treatment for lung cancer after follow-up tests confirmed the disease was localized, the Vatican said in a statement Wednesday.

Leo, 71, had the lower lobe of his right lung removed last week in the first major health event of his 17-month pontificate. The surgery confirmed he had adenocarcinoma, the most common type of lung cancer. Leo was discharged from Rome's Gemelli Polyclinic on Saturday, four days after surgery, and said he would gradually resume his activities.

The pope's personal physician, Dr. Luigi Carbone, and his surgeon, Dr. Stefano Margaritora, said in a statement that results of the final post-operative tests on tissue removed during the pope's surgery confirmed the diagnosis and that the cancer had not spread.

"A subsequent oncology assessment confirmed that no further treatment is necessary," the doctors said.

The pope had the lower section, or lobe, of his right lung removed to try to ensure that all the cancer was removed.

Additional treatment is offered in such cases if follow-up testing finds signs that the cancer has spread, such as through the lymph nodes, or has certain other signs that it might be particularly aggressive. Surgery often can be enough when tumors are caught very early, such as when someone has an X-ray or other scan that shows a spot long before it's large or causing symptoms.

The pope appears to have had one of those "incidental findings," a nodule in his lung spotted during another exam.

In an interview with Vatican News on Saturday, Margaritora, the chief thoracic surgeon at Rome's Gemelli hospital, confirmed that the nodule was found by chance during routine abdominal examinations, and that the pope had not been experiencing any symptoms.

"The statements suggest that this is a stage I lung cancer for which surgery is highly effective and expected to be curative," said Dr. Stephen Liu, a lung cancer expert at Georgetown's Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center. He said the lack of further treatment suggests a relatively small cancer, and that it had not spread to lymph nodes.

The pope carried on business while in the hospital, including a call with Russian President Vladimir Putin, and has appeared strong in two public appearances at the Vatican since his surgery: the traditional Sunday blessing from a window overlooking St. Peter's Square and Wednesday's longer audience in the square, greeting the faithful from around the world.

"Thank you! Thank you for the support of your prayers," Leo said during the audience.

His next major engagement is an ambitious Nov. 6-17 trip to Uruguay, Argentina and Peru.

Margaritora told Vatican News that there was "no clinical reason" to prevent the trip, which includes a dozen flights, two helicopter rides and high altitude stops.

The pope had revealed that a nodule would be surgically removed during the traditional Sunday blessing on Oct. 11, in an unusually transparent disclosure broadcast on live television that broke the tradition of secrecy surrounding papal health issues.



Pope Leo XIV waves as he arrives for his weekly general audience in St. Peter's Square at The Vatican, Oct. 21, 2026. PHOTO COURTESY OF AP NEWS

The Daily Campus

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