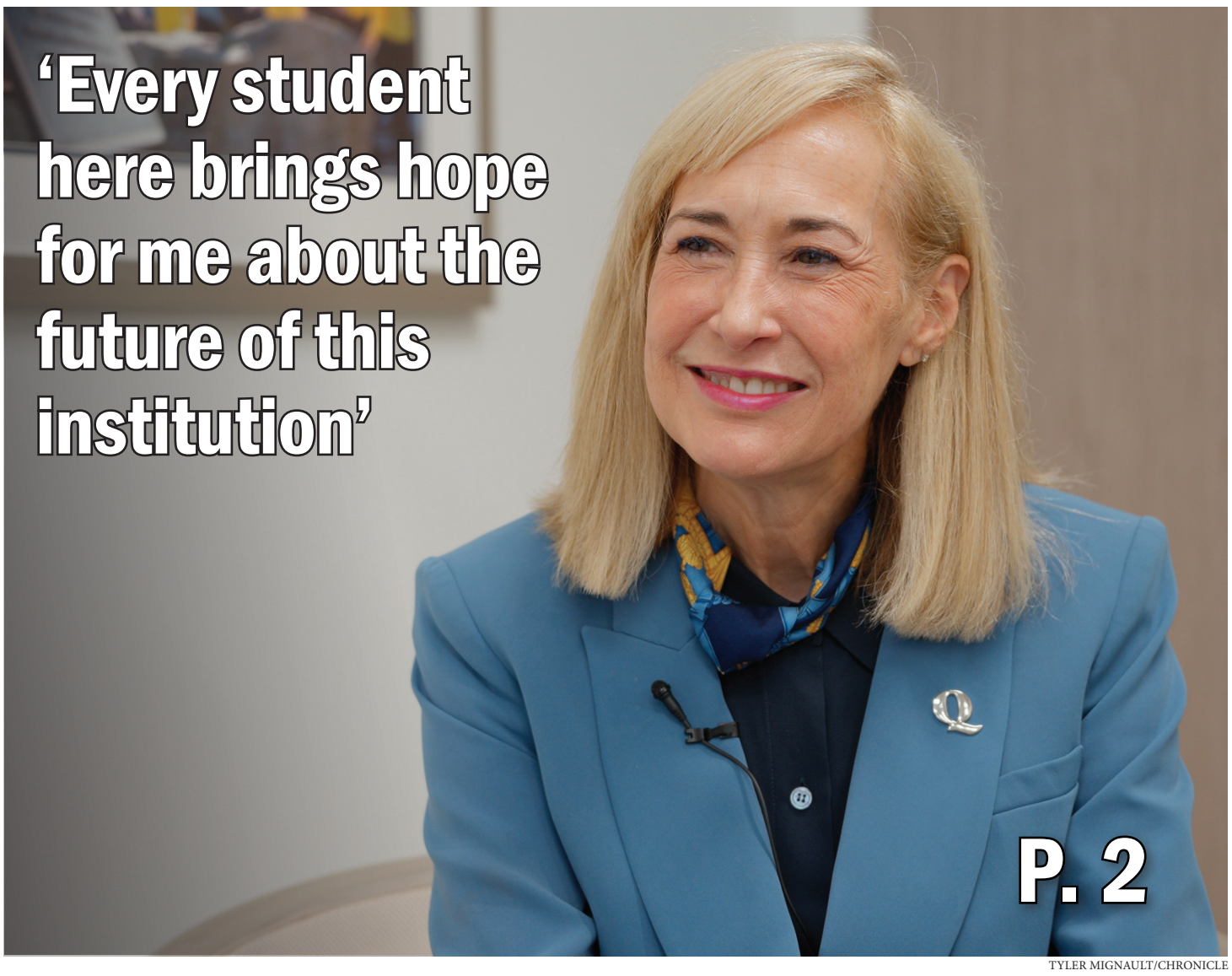
NOVEMBER 11, 2026 • VOLUME 97 • ISSUE 11

The Quinnipiac Chronicle

The official student newspaper of Quinnipiac University since 1929



TYLER MIGNAULT/CHRONICLE

Quinnipiac Poll makes close forecast for midterms compared to results

By AVA HIGHLAND
Managing Editor

Results from three October Quinnipiac Polls ahead of the 2026 midterm gubernatorial races in Connecticut, New York and Pennsylvania closely aligned with the outcomes and showed a shared opinion on top issues.

Across the three aforementioned states, several similarities stuck out in top issues for voters.

“There was a political environment that was very difficult for Republicans this year because of the unpopularity of President (Donald) Trump,” assistant director at the Quinnipiac University Poll, Mary Snow said. “We saw that in each of the states that we’ve polled, we saw that he was deeply unpopular as well as on the national scale.”

In all three states’ gubernatorial races, Democrat incumbents won their race.

Looking first at Connecticut, between Oct. 8 and 12, 1,225 Connecticut likely voters were surveyed, with a margin of error of +/- 3.8.

The results released Oct. 14 had 58% of likely voters backing incumbent Democrat Ned Lamont, 38% backing Republican challenger Ryan Fazio and 3% not choosing a candidate.

As of publication, Lamont won with 59.56% of votes to serve his third term — 1.56% percentage points higher than the poll. Fazio received 40.44% of votes, 2.44 percentage points more than the poll.

Of those aforementioned 1,225 Connecticut likely voters, 30% said they had not heard enough about Fazio — which Snow says is not unusual.

“We’ve seen it before, however, given the fact that what we were seeing was Ned Lamont having a double-digit league in the polls that we conducted, with just a couple of weeks to go, that is a very steep hill to climb,” Snow said. “When you’re trying to take on an incumbent who is well known in the state… this is his third term, and voters are familiar with him, so that clearly is a disadvantage.”

In New York, 1,167 likely voters were surveyed from Oct. 15 to 19 with a margin of error of +/- 3.8 percentage points.

Results posted Oct. 21 had Democratic incumbent Kathy Hochul receiving 55% support among likely voters, Republican challenger Bruce Blakeman receiving 41% support and 4% not choosing a candidate.

As of publication, Hochul received 59.73% of votes, a 4.73 percentage point difference, to serve her second term. Blakeman received 40.06% of votes, just a .94 percentage point difference.

“Her margin of victory, right, as it stands right now is 19 points,” Snow said. “And that’s what we found our final result. We were close to the final margin of victory in the race on Tuesday.”

Snow noted that this stood out compared to when she ran for her first term.

“Because for a, an incumbent who was much closer four years ago, to have such a wide lead also was very telling about the political environment that we’re in right now,” Snow said.

Finally, in Pennsylvania, 1,159 likely voters were surveyed from Oct. 1 to 5 with a margin of error of +/- 3.9 percentage points.

The results released Oct. 7 had 59% of likely voters supporting incumbent Governor Josh Shapiro, 34% supporting Republican challenger Stacy Garrity, 2% for Lib-

See **MIDTERMS** Page 2

Speakers at QCF event spark controversy among students

By BRYCE INFALD
Staff Writer

Pastors Stuart and Cliffe Knechtle spoke at Quinnipiac University at an event hosted by the Quinnipiac Christian Fellowship (QCF) Nov. 6, prompting backlash from students and organizations.

The QCF hosted the event, which was open to all Quinnipiac students. Cliffe and Stuart, a Christian father-son duo who visit college campuses to debate students through religion, were the event’s speakers.

As the event became publicized and after it ended, students, alumni and student organizations were upset by the Knechtles being allowed to speak on campus, specifically due to their previous comments on the LGBTQ+ and Muslim communities.

At the time of publication, QCF did not respond to The Chronicle’s request for a comment. First-year applied business student and QCF member Stuart Jensen stated that the organization did not violate any university rules by inviting the Knechtles to speak on campus.

“If you look at the speaker policy, it’s totally legitimate to have a free exchange of ideas,” Jensen said. “It says it in writing. QCF did nothing wrong in terms of breaking policy or anything. It’s just people…seemed to not like having a different opinion. It’s hypocritical in that sense.”

Although the event was highly attended, some students believed the event shouldn’t have been held due to the speakers’ views.

Following the event, a letter signed by multiple Quinnipiac alumni was sent to President Marie Hardin, which voiced their disapproval of the event.

“We are writing today as alumni who are extremely disappointed with the University’s decision to allow the student organization, Quinnipiac Christian Fellowship (QCF), to host Cliffe and Stuart Knechtle,” the alumni wrote in the letter. “These two individuals are known to be homophobic, Islamophobic, and sexist, and their harmful comments are easily accessible online.”

One of the letter’s signees, Angelina Giordani ‘26, stated that even though she’s no longer a Quinnipiac student, speaking up still matters.

“It’s important to hold your university accountable for stuff that’s going on,” Giordani said.

In addition to the alumni letter, the event was denounced on social media by student organizations, including Students for Social Justice, The Quinnipiac Barnacle, QU Dungeons

See **EVENT** Page 3

IN THIS ISSUE

OPINION
5 The Supreme Court’s holy war on inclusive pre-K

ARTS & LIFE
6 What the women in movies and television taught us about our 20’s

SPORTS
10 Top-seeded Bobcats gear up for the Metro Conference Tournament