FROM THE FRONT

"This is my game, my rules"
WHAT IT'S LIKE TO BE ME BRITNEY SPEARS

Administrative burden targeted

EFFICIENCY FROM PAGE 1

A slide deck posted on Yale's website sketches five priority projects, their expected benefits and the observed challenges that these projects are aiming to solve. They aim broadly to simplify transactions and make spending more transparent.

They center around supplier onboarding, New Haven services, expense reimbursement, financial reporting and employee spending, per the slide deck.

According to the slide deck, two people will lead each of these five projects and that the projects will be tested before they are fully implemented.

The slide deck also outlines three capital projects: "project design improvement," "contracting and increased competition" and "moderate lab renovations." Some of these projects will result in quality improvements, some will avoid future costs and some will save actual dollars, according to the slide deck.

Chatas began his role as senior vice president for operations in November 2025.

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Shyam Suva / Contributing Photographer
The project, which aims to reduce operational costs and administrative burden, began its first phase in May, where pilot programs were developed and reviewed. In a Tuesday press release, the University announced the launch of the initiative's second phase.

The Game kicks off Saturday at 3:30 p.m.



Ximena Solorzano / Head Photography Editor
Team 153 is set to play its final game of the 2026 season as the Bulldogs ship up to Boston to take on the Crimson, who have lost the previous four games in the rivalry series.

FOOTBALL FROM PAGE 1

"We're fired up for the opportunity to compete in such a storied rivalry at Fenway Park," head coach Kevin Cahill said, according to a Yale Athletics press release. "There's nothing quite like the energy, tradition, and atmosphere surrounding this game. We recognize what it means to the Yale community and can't wait to get out there and represent Yale with pride and passion."

Team 153's defensive unit will be crucial to its efforts on Saturday. Led by captain Abu Kamara '27, the Bulldog defense has one of the highest ceilings in the nation when it comes to defensive firepower. Yale must also control its momentum and stay on the right side of the big play category for a shot at victory.

Kickoff is set for 3:30 p.m. on Saturday at Fenway Park. The game will be broadcast on ESPNU.

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Congress unlikely to prioritize universities, experts say

MIDTERMS FROM PAGE 1

doesn't necessarily mean any kind of return to form of two years ago," Lake added.

Neil Gross, a Colby College professor who studies politics and higher education, also said while the Democratic Party has moved toward college-educated voters, the issue of higher education is still a "low priority item." He added that Democrats ran on affordability and may be unwilling to fight the "culture war battles" that defined the Trump administration's fight with universities.

While Yale has avoided the targeted funding cuts faced by other universities like Harvard and Columbia, the tax on universities' endowment returns that saw a hike in Trump's signature One Big Beautiful Bill Act is estimated to cost Yale $350 million a year, and cuts to research grant funding has caused uncertainty and slowdowns across the University.

At the Saturday town hall, speakers expressed hope that the midterms would stall the Trump agenda on diversity cuts and inspire Yale leaders to move away from the Trump administration.

"It is time for a course correction. This nation just had one with the midterm elections, now it's Yale's turn. No deal with Trump, no capitulation," Kenneth Roth LAW '80, a lecturer at Yale Law School, said at the town hall. "America is still a democracy. Democracy won in the midterms. And it is precisely because of that pushback that Yale and others should not be acquiescing, and those that did acquiesce look terrible."

Congressman-elect Chris Rabb '92, one of over 70 new House Democrats, has also condemned Yale's negotiations with Trump, joining a host of Democratic politicians including Sen. Richard Blumenthal LAW '73 and Rep. Rosa DeLauro, who both represent New Haven in Congress.

Virginia Rep. Robert Scott, a Democrat and ranking member of the House Committee on Education and Workforce, wrote in a statement through a spokesperson that the second Trump administration's approach to education, labor and health care has been defined by "abandoning the people these departments were established to serve."

Scott did not directly address higher education, but wrote that he intends to "hold this Administration accountable by calling them to answer for their actions."

But universities are unlikely to be out of the woods yet, two experts said.

Lake said Democrats may attempt to rein in Trump's restrictions on international students, many of which have already been paused or rejected by federal courts. Democrats are also more likely to increase funding for the National Institute of Health and the National Science Foundation, Lake said. In the last budget, Trump proposed cuts to both agencies, but elected officials across the aisle pushed back and maintained NIH funding while making small cuts to the NSF.

Two days after the midterms, the Justice Department official responsible for the admissions investigation into Yale stepped down, but Trump has since appointed an interim attorney general for civil rights who has targeted federal funding for colleges and universities with diversity initiatives while at the Department of Education.

Lake said one big question is whether the 120th Congress will consider lowering the endowment tax. He said the tax could be on the table but is not sure if Democrats will go to bat for universities.

Gross said most of the Trump administration's attacks on universities came from executive agencies. Congress can investigate the Department of Justice and Department of Education, but it will be challenging to stop them from launching investigations, Gross said.

When asked about her reaction to the midterms in a Monday interview, University President Maurie McInnis praised student participation and Yale groups that encourage voting engagement, including the Yale Democracy Project and the Student Civic Engagement Committee.

McInnis did not directly answer a question about whether she is pleased Democrats are back in control of the House and Senate, saying instead, "I look forward to working with the next congressional session on all of the issues that I advocate for when I am in D.C."

Increasing Pell Grants has been a focus for several years, according to McInnis, as well as addressing changes to federal loan eligibility impacting Yale's nursing students. She said she plans to continue advocating for science funding because of cuts to agencies during the last congress and a lack of spending of appropriated money.

McInnis said she also wants to continue advocating for international students, particularly due to limits on visa length and threats to Curricular Practical Training and Optional Practical Training, work authorization programs that allow students to participate in summer internships and employment after graduation.

"It's been a really difficult time of uncertainty for our international students, and we'd like to bring greater stability to all of that," she said.

Earlier this month, Yale's General Counsel Alexander Dreier LAW '95 submitted a statement on behalf of the University opposing a proposed rule that would add a new $70,000 fee to Optional Practical Training.

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Ethan Sullivan / Contributing Photographer
After two turbulent years for American universities under the Trump administration, Democrats are set to control the House and the Senate. But two higher education experts said the new Congress may lack the motivation to prevent attacks on Yale.