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Logan Dinkins / Contributing Photographer

Yale unions rally for higher pay

BY KADE GAJDUSEK
STAFF REPORTER

An estimated 2,000 people marched Thursday afternoon from the New Haven Green to the School of Medicine in a show of support for Yale unions renegotiating contracts with the University.

The rally, organized by the union advocacy group New Haven Rising, was centered on UNITE HERE Local 34 and Local 35, unions of Yale's clerical and technical and its service and maintenance workers. Members of other unions and Students Unite Now, an undergraduate group allied with UNITE HERE, also attended the event.

The rally began on the northern corner of the Green at 5 p.m., then headed down College Street towards the medical school, where some of the union members are employed.

Many different chants cascaded through the large parade of people, often harmonizing into a unanimous "Who's got the power? We got the power!" On the side of the road, pick-up trucks filled with Local 35 members were handing out high fives and sharing compliments.

"We are standing here in the heart of the medical school," Barbara Vereen, chief steward of Local 34, said, gesturing at the building. "We need to send a message to Yale Medicine, to the dean of medicine and to the seat of the chief operating officer of Yale Medicine. We need to send them a message that says, 'Respect our work.'"

Speakers brought up a host of issues they want to see addressed in contract negotiations — including job security commitments, child care provisions and wage increases to match inflation. The word "respect" was ubiquitous, mentioned in almost every speech.

In the crowd, many people held signs reading "We can't keep up" and "One job should be enough," alluding to increases in the cost of living.

"Our members are getting priced out of New Haven because rents have gone up 300, 500, 800 dollars, and our wages have not kept up," Raven Turquoise-Moon, a senior administrative assistant at the Yale School of Medicine's development

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Trustees give talks before board meeting

BY OLIVIA WOO AND JERRY GAO
STAFF REPORTERS

Two trustees of the Yale Corporation, Fred Krupp '75 GRD '22 and Neal Wolin '83 LAW '88, held events with students Thursday afternoon ahead of the corporation's first meeting of the academic year, which is set for Saturday.

The corporation, Yale's primary governing body, has long valued secrecy, citing the necessity of "candor" for its meetings. Its meeting agendas are kept secret, and the minutes are sealed for 50 years. The board is made up of 10 successor trustees, who are appointed by Corporation members to serve up to two six-year terms, and six alumni trustees, who are elected by Yale alumni to serve one six-year term each.

In April, the Yale Corporation adopted a Yale College Council initiative demanding more transparency from the body. The YCC, along with the Graduate Student Assembly and the Graduate and Professional Student Senate, said in a letter that they would hold college teas and other events to encourage connection between students and trustees.

It is unclear whether Thursday's events with trustees were the result of the corporation's adoption of the YCC proposal. Neither event was hosted by the YCC, the Graduate Student Assembly or the Graduate and

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Yale News

Yale could pay $20M for faculty visas

BY JAEHA JANG
STAFF REPORTER

Yale could pay more than $20 million to hire tenure-track faculty through the H-1B visa program if it continues to sponsor a similar number of visas as it has in recent years.

On last Friday, President Donald Trump moved to require a $100,000 payment from employers for every H-1B visa application they sponsor. The H-1B program allows employers to petition for temporary visas for highly educated foreign professionals. Between 2018 and 2024, Yale sponsored 200 or more H-1B visas each fiscal year, according to the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services's H-1B Employer Data Hub.

For Yale to continue sponsoring 200 or more H-1B visas each year, it would have to pay more than $20 million in application fees, under the order.

Karen Peart, a University spokesperson, did not answer the News' questions about whether Yale would sponsor fewer H-1B visas in the future or how the University would pay the new fees. Instead, she referred to a Sept. 20 announcement from Yale's Office of International Students and Scholars, which clarifies that petitions submitted before Sept. 21 are unaffected by the new fees.

"The proclamation applies only prospectively to H-1B peti-

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Reeti Malhotra / Contributing Photographer

Overpass protest crackdown curbed speech, activists say

BY REETI MALHOTRA AND ADELE HAEG
STAFF REPORTERS

The American Civil Liberties Union's Connecticut chapter is backing local progressive activists who allege that state police infringed on First Amendment rights in their response to peaceful protests on highway overpasses in the state.

Early last Friday morning, protesters with the Connecticut Visibility Brigade gathered outside the New Haven County Courthouse to object to the arraignment of one of their leaders after she was arrested twice over the summer.

New Havener Katherine Hinds, 71, was arrested on July 19 and again on Aug. 8. She was charged with second-degree criminal trespassing, second-degree breach of peace and "unauthorized signs on a highway" for protesting on overpasses along Interstate 95.

At her arraignment, Hinds pleaded not guilty to the charges. Outside the courthouse, Brigade members held banners that read "Free Speech is in Danger" and "Hate Will Not Make America Great."

"This is happening in Connecticut, and, you know, Connecticut's a Democratic state," Lisa Leib, the organizer of last Friday's protest, said, referring to Hinds' arrests. "We tend to enjoy a lot of rights here. It's not like some of the other states, where their rights are being abridged. So we're really concerned that this is happening here."

It is a misdemeanor under Connecticut law to affix a sign to the fence of a highway overpass. The ACLU last Tuesday filed a lawsuit in federal court on behalf of two other Visibility Brigade members against two state officials, arguing that holding signs rather than affixing them to fences is protected under the First Amendment.

On Monday, U.S. District Judge Stefan Underhill ordered the officials to file a response justifying the state's restrictions on the overpass protests.

Ronnell Higgins, the commissioner for the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection and one of two named defendants in the ACLU complaint, wrote in a statement to the News that he had spoken with elected officials, law enforcement officers, prosecutors and citizens about how to protect First Amendment rights while maintaining highway safety.

Higgins, a former Yale Police chief, added that state troopers will

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Tim Tai

Inside The News

Fans packed Toad's Place for a pop-up Foo Fighters concert on Monday.

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