FROM THE FRONT

"Just like the clouds, my eyes will do the same, if you walk away, every day it'll rain."
"IT WILL RAIN" BRUNO MARS

Two trustees speak at student events

TRUSTEES FROM PAGE 1

Professional Student Senate.

Krupp, who was elected to be an alumni fellow in 2022, spoke at a Pierson College tea to about 20 attendees. An environmental advocacy nonprofit executive, Krupp was the first alumni trustee elected after the Corporation controversially eliminated the petition process to appear on its election ballots. Now, prospective alumni trustees must receive nominations from a University nominating body to become candidates.

The same afternoon, Wolin, a successor trustee and former deputy secretary of the U.S. Department of the Treasury, spoke at a small seminar-style event hosted by Yale's political science honor society, Pi Sigma Alpha. Approximately 12 people attended the conversation, which occurred under Chatham House rules, under which participants cannot attribute quotes or information to speakers or participants.

"We invited Mr. Wolin to speak because of his distinguished career in public service and the private sector, as well as his record of service to Yale University," Pi Sigma Alpha treasurer Matthew Quintos '26 wrote to the News after the event.

Wolin declined to answer the News' questions about matters related to the Yale Corporation. He has been on the corporation since 2023 and serves on six of its 12 committees. During the Pierson tea, Krupp talked about his work as the leader of the Environmental Defense Fund, or EDF. Krupp has led the EDF since 1984.

Many attendees told the News that Krupp's talk was the first college tea they'd ever attended. Roxanne Shaviro '26, a senior, said she was surprised by the accessibility of the trustee.

"I saw the flyer and I was sure there's going to be people coming here to torment him. That was not my plan, but I thought there would be more people," Shaviro said in an interview. "I think having the connection of Yale alum status breaks the ice a little bit, and I felt like I kind of want to go to more college teas now."

When asked during the event about future plans for campus sustainability as the Yale Sustainability Plan nears its end this year, Krupp said that he has not yet gotten the final report on the plan but expressed enthusiasm for Yale to continue pursuing sustainability.

"Every university, including Yale, should be planning for the future and be ambitious," Krupp said in an interview after the event. "I came directly from climate week this afternoon, where I was at the Yale Club, and was proud to see Julie Zimmerman, our vice provost in charge of planetary solutions, leading the way."

Krupp also declined to answer the News' questions about the upcoming corporation meeting.

Crystal Feimster, head of Pierson College, said she has been wanting to invite Krupp since she became the head of college two years ago, but "just couldn't work it out" before the Thursday tea.

"Oftentimes, when people are in these positions, they're the expert in the building, even though they've learned from lots of people," Feimster said. "So I love that he was able to point to other experts."

Pierce Nguyen '29, a first-year student, asked Krupp during the event whether majoring in engineering would be useful for solving environmental issues. In an interview with the News, Nguyen spoke positively about Krupp, who said that people from multiple disciplines are needed in environmental work.

The Corporation has previously been criticized by student activists for Yale's investments in the fossil fuel industry. In 2023, the Yale Endowment Justice Coalition, or EJC, organized a teach-in calling for the Yale Corporation to divest from fossil fuels and advocated for stricter rules and greater transparency regarding fossil-fuel related investment.

A Yale spokesperson wrote to the News at the time that the University already has binding rules against companies that act in ways that are "antithetical to a transition to a carbon-free economy."

University President Maurie McInnis sits on the Yale Corporation.

Contact
OLIVIA WOO at
olivia.woo@yale.edu and
JERRY GAO at
jerry.gao.jg2988@yale.edu .

Trump order could cost Yale millions for visas

VISAS FROM PAGE 1

tions that have not yet been filed," the announcement reads. "We still advise caution to those H-1B visa holders currently in the U.S. regarding international travel, as this situation is rapidly evolving."

Between October 2024 and June 2025 –– the first three quarters of the 2025 financial year — Yale sponsored 157 H-1B visas, according to the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services database.

Steven Wilkinson, the dean of faculty of arts and sciences, did not immediately respond to a request for comment on possible changes in faculty hiring in light of the new fees associated with H-1B visa applications.

At Yale, H-1B visas are "generally reserved for tenure-track faculty appointments," while the J-1 visa typically sponsors non-tenure-track faculty and postdoctoral research training positions, an OISS webpage says.

The H-1B visa is initially granted for a maximum period of three years and can be extended to a maximum total period of six years. The OISS's Saturday announcement noted that Trump's recent proclamation "does not appear to impact" these extension petitions for individuals already in the United States.

According to a frequently asked questions page on H-1B visas released by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services on Sept. 21, the $100,000 fee is a one-time-only payment for new H-1B visa applicants, regardless of duration.

Since the H-1B visa is contingent upon employer and position-specific status, employees on H-1B visas are only authorized to perform the duties detailed in their approved application, the OISS webpage on H-1B visas also notes. If their role changes, they are required to file an amendment, according to the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

OISS's Saturday announcement said the office has "less clarity regarding an initial H-1B petition requesting a change of status for the beneficiary from a non-immigrant category to H-1B, or an H-1B amendment."

In a November 2024 webinar, Ozan Say, the director of the OISS, said that if the H-1B visa becomes "not possible," then individuals could consider applying for O-1 visas instead.

The O-1 visa sponsors an individual who possesses an "extraordinary ability in the sciences, arts, education, business, or athletics, or who has a demonstrated record of extraordinary achievement in the motion picture or television industry and has been recognized nationally or internationally for those achievements," according to the immigration services website.

"O-1 is a very, actually, even a more subjective visa category than H-1B, so it's usually kind of our last resort," Say said.

The federal government caps H-1B visa issuances at 85,000 per year, which means it could bring in up to $8.5 billion annually from the new application fee.



On Friday, President Donald Trump announced a $100,000 fee for new H-1B visa applications. Yale has sponsored 200 or more of these visas every year since 2018. / **Ruiyan Wang**

Contact
JAEHA JANG at
jaeha.jang@yale.edu .

ACLU files lawsuit after summertime arrests

ACLU FROM PAGE 1

receive "more detailed First Amendment training" and that all body camera footage and 911 calls related to highway protestors would now be published online.

Two arrests and an alleged 'vendetta'

Hinds became involved with the Visibility Brigade in February, according to Leib.

The Visibility Brigade is a nationwide protest movement that began in New Jersey in 2020 and aims to mobilize Americans by "providing physical messaging" in order "to demonstrate that resistance is possible," according to the organization's website.

Connecticut State Trooper First Class Joshua Jackson, who filed Hinds' August arrest warrant, wrote in an affidavit at the time that Hinds had displayed banners and was "engaging in criminal activity related to unlawful protesting" on various overpasses along I-95 on on at least six dates from Feb. 14 to July 19. He identified her activities through posts on her Facebook page, according to the affidavit.

On three of those occasions, Jackson approached Hinds, ordering her and other protestors to take down their signs and leave the area. He cited the state law that prohibits protestors from attaching signs on overpasses and argued that displaying signs was also unlawful, as it creates a "distraction" for incoming highway motorists.

Hinds ultimately complied with Jackson's requests in each of the three encounters, and Jackson gave a verbal warning each time, Jackson wrote in the affidavit.

In body camera footage of one such incident — released Monday afternoon by a spokesperson for the Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection — Jackson asks protesters to take affixed signs down because the bridge is a "political neutral area."

Hinds was first arrested on July 19 by a separate group of state troopers for allegedly displaying a banner at the Stevens Avenue overpass in West Haven without proper permits. The troopers claimed that traffic volume had increased as a result, according to Jackson's affidavit. The Connecticut law that prohibits affixing signs to highway overpasses forbids displaying signs that could interfere with traffic.

"Traffic on the I-95 was created by the sign — if you have spent any time in Connecticut, that alone should be a laugh line," Dan Barrett, an attorney at the ACLU of Connecticut, said.

On Aug. 8, Hinds was arrested a second time, this time by Jackson. Jackson arrived at Hinds' home at 6 a.m. and arrested her on new charges after "loudly pounding on her front door" according to an Aug. 13 letter from Hinds' attorneys to the Office of the State's Attorney.

In the letter, Hinds' attorneys claim that Jackson is "pursuing a personal vendetta against Ms. Hinds and her protected First Amendment activities."

The letter also states that Hinds had filed a misconduct complaint against Jackson in April for "his continued harassment" of the protestors. Jackson's affidavit did not mention this allegation.

Rick Green — the spokesperson for the Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, which oversees the state police — wrote in an email to the News that Jackson was unavailable for comment.

In an Aug. 19 letter Higgins wrote to state lawmakers, he wrote that protests "may be subject to reasonable time, place, and manner restrictions, particularly in areas adjacent to high-speed travel lanes or critical infrastructure, when necessary to ensure public safety and security." Higgins alluded to an ongoing internal affairs investigation prompted by a citizen complaint.

Higgins further refuted "any assertion that Troopers are unfairly targeting certain overpass protestors based upon any perceived political or social affiliations."

Lawsuit alleges new overpass crackdown

According to the ACLU lawsuit, "loosely affiliated groups of Connecticut residents committed to expressing dissent with current federal government policies and actions" have been peacefully holding signs on state overpasses since President Donald Trump won the November 2024 election. After the president's inauguration in January, they increased their activities.

However, in February 2025, state police began to intervene in the overpass protests, according to the lawsuit.

Erin Quinn, 46, and Robert Marra, 70, are the two named plaintiffs in the ACLU's lawsuit, which names Higgins and Garrett Eucalitto, the commissioner of Connecticut's Department of Transportation, as defendants. According to the complaint, the New Haveners both joined the Visibility Brigade earlier this year and have attended a combined total of approximately 50 sign-holding protests mainly in New Haven, West Haven and Branford.

After continued intervention by state police, Quinn and Marra were left "shaken" and, with members of their organization, began to limit their overpass protests. According to Barrett, at least seven individuals were prosecuted by summons in Fairfield for protesting on an overpass above the Merritt Parkway in August.

Hinds was the first member of the group to be arrested at the protests — and activists' "last straw," according to the ACLU complaint.

"Ms. Quinn feels she can no longer tolerate the risk of being harassed or potentially arrested by police for her protest activities," the complaint states. "Mr. Marra similarly feels that the variability of the police response to the demonstrations, and reasoning given, means anything could happen."

The ACLU's complaint also claimed that the state agencies have taken a "hands-off approach" to other demonstrations on overpasses in the past.

The complaint cites 2013 protests against then-President Barack Obama, during which protestors attached signs to fencing on the overpass and waved to passing motorists, as well as a 2021 assembly of firefighters on overpasses to honor a public employee who died at work. Both protests took place without incident, the complaint notes.

Barrett said that citizens should be "tremendously suspicious" of government authorities deciding "that signs involving speech about what's going on right this second in the country are a problem when, in the past, signs on the same topic were not. That should raise everybody's alarm bells."

Underhill, the U.S. district judge, set an Oct. 2 deadline for Higgins and Eucalitto to respond to the activists' lawsuit.

Contact
REETI MALHOTRA at
reeti.malhotra@yale.edu and
ADELE HAEG at
adele.haeg@yale.edu .