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Grade inflation ticked up slightly in 2024-25



Shayam Suva / Contributing Photographer

BY JOLYNDA WANG AND HAILEY YOUNG
STAFF REPORTERS

Around 81 percent of grades awarded at Yale College in the 2024-25 school year were either an A or an A-minus, according to a resolution by the Faculty of Arts and Sciences and School of Engineering and Applied Sciences Senate.

The 80.75 percent figure represents an uptick from 78.97 percent in the 2022-23 school year, the last year for which data is publicly available. The share had been trending downward since its peak of 81.97 percent in the 2020-21 school year, during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The new figure was included in a resolution that the FAS-SEAS Senate passed unanimously on Thursday to urge the College's Committee on Teaching, Learning and Advising to develop policies that make grades more meaningful while preserving faculty authority and minimizing harm to students. Yale College Dean Pericles Lewis told the News earlier this month that the committee is set to release recommendations on grading in November.

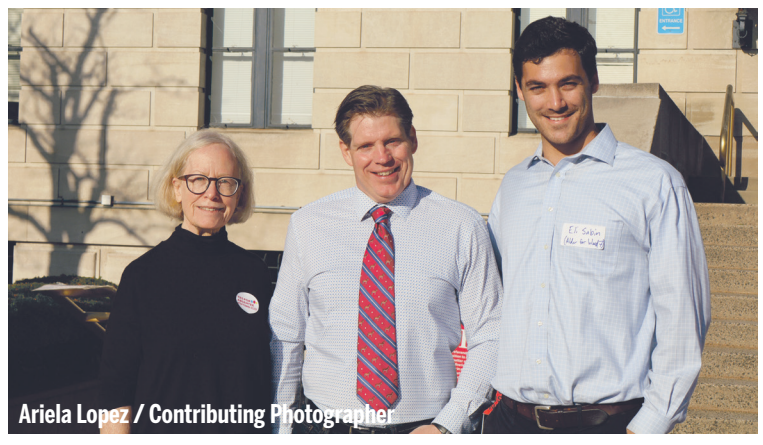
The 2024-25 data is evidence that "grade inflation has substantially reduced the information content of grades at Yale," the resolution says.

In 2023, economics professor Ray Fair shared with the News, with Lewis' approval, data that showed the percentage of A-range grades between the 2010-11 school year and the 2022-23 school year, with the exception

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State primary pick mends ties

BY NELLIE KENNEY
STAFF REPORTER


Ariela Lopez / Contributing Photographer

After beating a veteran state representative in an August primary, incoming Rep. Eli Sabin '22 LAW '26 said that he is working to rebuild bridges in Hartford and New Haven.

The general election to represent Connecticut's 92nd District is set for November, but Sabin's spot is uncontested. In his primary, Sabin defeated Rep. Patricia Dillon SPH '98, who has held the seat for over four decades. Dillon had received endorsements from New Haven's Democratic Town Committee, four of the city's other state legislators, politically powerful local labor unions and a slew of alders.

"I think a lot of what we're trying to do is trying to bring people together after the primary and then work together with everybody in the district," Sabin said in a phone interview earlier this month.

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Conservatives back Trump talks


Braden Mathis / Staff Photographer

BY SARAH RIVAS
STAFF REPORTER

The University's decision to negotiate with the Trump administration came under fire this summer from a wide swath of Yale affiliates.

But several conservative undergraduates said they have few qualms with administrators' approach — and some even said a settlement could benefit the University.

Yale is engaged in talks with the Trump administration to resolve an investigation into its admissions practices, after the Department of Justice accused the medical school of discriminating against white and Asian students. Since June, disgruntled students and alumni have leveled an array of charges against administrators, including a lack of transparency in communications around the negotiations.

But Diego Victoria '27, vice president of Turning Point USA at Yale, said the relationship between administrators and students during settlement negotiations should mirror that of a caretaker and their dependents.

"You know when you're a little kid, and then your parents

SEE **CONSERVATIVES** PAGE 4

Faculty advise grade committee

BY JOLYNDA WANG AND HAILEY YOUNG
STAFF REPORTERS


Braden Mathis / Staff Photographer

The Faculty of Arts and Sciences and School of Engineering and Applied Sciences Senate Faculty Senate on Thursday unanimously passed a resolution on grade inflation, urging a Yale College committee to develop grading policies that keep grades meaningful while minimizing harm to students and faculty.

The College's Committee on Teaching, Learning and Advising, which the resolution is addressed to, is set to release recommendations on grade inflation in November, Yale College Dean Pericles Lewis told the News earlier this month. A full faculty vote on that guidance is "anticipated in" December, according to a FAS-SEAS Senate press release.

"We hope these principles will help the Committee on Teaching, Learning, and Advising develop a policy that makes grades more meaningful, while also fostering the learning and intellectual exploration we want for our students," Michael Farina, chair of the FAS-SEAS Faculty Senate, said in the press release.

The resolution comes after Yale and other Ivy League institutions have identified grade inflation as a concern in the past year. As the document notes, in April, the University's Committee on Trust in Higher Education recommended that Yale establish GPA guidelines of "a 3.0 mean, or some other college-wide standard," and provide percentile rankings for students.

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YCC punts vote of no confidence in Lewis

BY SARAH RIVAS
STAFF REPORTER

The Yale College Council Senate postponed voting on a statement urging Yale to refrain from appointing Pericles Lewis to a second term as dean of Yale College.

During its Sunday meeting, the senate debated whether to pass the public statement, which was sponsored by several student organizations and comes as administrators solicit feedback on Lewis' leadership. The statement alleges that the dean, whose current term ends next June, has failed to support low-income students amid budget-tightening in the College and implemented detrimental changes to advising policy.

"The Yale College Council (YCC) hereby issues a statement of NO CONFIDENCE in Yale College Dean Pericles Lewis, urging the University to reconsider his appointment to a second term," the statement reads.

If the statement passes during next Sunday's senate meeting, it will be sent to University President Maurie McInnis, Provost Scott Strobel, Senior Trustee Marta L. Tellado GRD '02, the Yale Corporation and the heads and deans of the 14 residential colleges.

The document cites several of Yale College's recent policy changes, including the termination of the Yale Sustainable Food Program's director position, cuts to summer experience funding and the phasing out of summer storage support for low-income students. It also references a shift to the first-year registration timeline that saw the class of 2030 choose classes before moving in — which some

SEE **COUNCIL** PAGE 5

On campus, trustees discuss student visas, Trump

BY ARIA LYNN-SKOV, SARA AGRAWAL AND LEO NYBERG
STAFF REPORTERS

Members of the board of trustees met with faculty and student leaders this weekend to discuss ongoing negotiations with the Trump administration, visa restrictions on international students and graduate student life.

The weekend's events, which marked the Yale Corporation's first board meeting on campus this academic year, came amid Yale's continued negotiations with the Trump administration over alleged discrimination in medical school admissions. The Corporation, or board of trustees, is the University's highest governing body and is responsible for selecting Yale's president, approving the endowment spending rate and managing the University's long-term interests.

The Executive Council of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences and School of Engineering and Applied Science Senate met with the board's faculty liaisons on Friday, according to senate chair Michael Farina.

Farina said the council and trustee faculty liaisons — David Thomas '78 GRD '84 '86, David Sze '88 and Jaime Teevan '98 — discussed Yale's "voluntary engagement with the DOJ" but that the trustees offered "no new details."

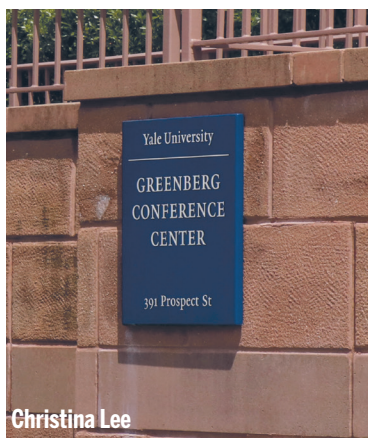
They also discussed adding academic freedom protections to the faculty handbook — a move that has been backed by undergraduate and graduate student leaders — as well as grading policy.

"The trustees met with faculty as part of the faculty liaison committee that meets regularly," Yale spokesperson Karen Peart wrote. "They also met with students as part of the student liaison committee."

Peart wrote that the trustees' fall meeting is "typically focused on discussing what the Yale community achieved the previous year and the priorities for the year ahead." She declined to share the meeting agenda, citing a long-standing policy that renders agendas and minutes confidential.

Some trustees met with international students on Friday, new-

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Christina Lee

Inside The News

Kebabian's on Elm Street has produced high-quality rugs for many New Haven patrons since 1882.

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NFL Several former Bulldogs have made it from the Ivy League to National Football League rosters. They say they carry valuable pieces of their Yale education with them.
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THE ADVOCATE The New Haven Advocate relaunched as a quarterly alternative newspaper more than 50 years after the publication's debut.
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