

Legacy boost ended at Yale Law, per faculty

BY SASHA HUROWITZ
STAFF REPORTER

Yale Law School once factored legacy affiliation into its admissions preferences, three Law School professors told the News — a policy that was not publicized and no longer exists.

Over the course of more than a decade, the Law School has gradually become legacy-blind in its admissions process, Akhil Reed Amar '80 LAW '84, a Sterling professor of law and political science, said in interviews with the News between April and June. Parental ties to the school — whether as alumni or faculty — now carry no weight in evaluating potential J.D. candidates, according to a Law School spokesperson.

The change was completed in the past five years, Amar said. Professor of jurisprudence Gideon Yaffe and emeritus professor Lea Brilmayer confirmed the Law School's shift

away from legacy preferences but said they did not know the timeline.

No mention of the Law School's policy pertaining to legacy consideration appears to exist in any official public documents online.

When contacted by the News for comment, Law School spokesperson Alden Ferro declined to provide specifics about when or how legacy preferences were phased out — or whether they had ever been in place at all. Instead, Ferro issued a single written statement addressing both legacy admissions and legacy preferences for Yale College graduates, though the News had not inquired about the latter.

"There is no advantage given to legacy applicants in the Yale Law School admissions process," Ferro wrote in the statement. "The YLS application does not ask whether the applicant has a family member who attended

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Kimberly Angeles Gutierrez, Contributing Photographer

Johnson lauds Trump, free speech

BY JAEHA JANG
STAFF REPORTER



Logan Dinkins, Contributing Photographer

Boris Johnson, a former Conservative prime minister of the United Kingdom, spoke to Yale students Thursday evening about the importance of the Anglo-American alliance.

In the same talk, Johnson praised President Donald Trump and urged students to defend academic freedom and free speech. He contrasted American and British universities with those in "Moscow, Pyongyang, Tehran or Beijing."

"The difference between our universities and those universities around the world is absolutely fundamental because our universities -- Oxford, Yale -- these are places of academic freedom," Johnson said. "And intellectual freedom is the root

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Yale physicist wins Nobel

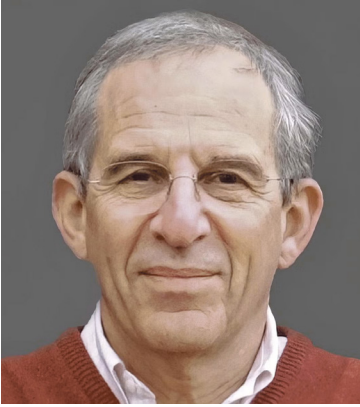
BY ANYA GEIST
STAFF REPORTER

Michel Devoret, a Yale professor emeritus of applied physics, won the 2025 Nobel Prize in physics alongside John Clarke and John M. Martinis, researchers from the University of California, Berkeley, for their work in quantum physics.

The team's award-winning research was conducted in 1984 and 1985 at the University of California, Berkeley, when Devoret was a post-doctoral fellow and Martinis was a graduate student in Clarke's research

group. According to a Nobel Prize press release, the trio will receive 11 million Swedish kronor, which is equivalent to about \$1.1 million, to be shared equally.

"Michel's work embodies the spirit of scientific discovery that defines Yale," Michael Crair, the vice provost for research, wrote to the News. "His pioneering research and deep Yale collaborations have not only advanced the field of quantum science, but have also inspired generations of young scientists to explore



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Salovey plans to teach next year

BY JAEHA JANG
STAFF REPORTER

Former University President Peter Salovey plans to make a return to teaching next year.

In an email to the News, Salovey wrote that he is "leaning toward" teaching a seminar on the psychology of leadership in higher education and a lecture on emotional intelligence.

"I do plan to resume teaching at Yale next year," Salovey wrote. "Back in the day, I used to teach large lecture courses such as Introduction to Psychology, and Psychology and Law. But I think I will now focus on courses that are a little more manageable."

Since joining the faculty in 1986, Salovey taught "Introduction to Psychology," known to students as "Psych 101," nearly every year until 2003, when he was appointed the dean of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences.

After leading the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences from

2003 to 2004, Salovey served as the dean of Yale College from 2004 to 2008, as University provost from 2008 to 2013 and as University president from 2013 to 2024. The last time Salovey taught was in fall 2012, according to CourseTable, a student course planning website.

While Salovey wrote that he misses teaching "Introduction to Psychology," which he estimates 6,000 to 8,000 students took with him over the years, he does not plan to teach it again.

"But the field of psychology has changed so much, and I would have a lot to learn before I could offer an excellent introduction to it again," he wrote. "I love it when alumni come up to me at a reunions and tell me that they pursued a career in psychology or use psychology in other kinds of work because of my 'Intro' course. That kind of feedback is very gratifying for any educator."

Salovey also taught "Psychology and the Law," which, according to alumni, was so popular it was taught in Battell Chapel. Most recently -- in 2011 and 2012 -- he taught "Great Big Ideas," an "experimental residential college seminar" that he led during his provostship.

According to Salovey, he has worked on several projects since the end of his presidency, including an article on emotional intelligence, research on human jealousy and envy, and essays discussing controversies in higher education from a psychological perspective. Salovey has also edited a book of his speeches as dean and president, which will be



Tim Tai

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Maia Nehme, Contributing Photographer

Refugee aid group skips federal program

BY SABRINA THALER
STAFF REPORTER

Administrators announced TA leading New Haven refugee resettlement agency will not receive migrants through the federal government's refugee admissions process in the new fiscal year.

The board of directors of Integrated Refugee and Immigrant Services, or IRIS, voted unanimously on Sept. 16 not to participate for the 2025-26 fiscal year in an international resettlement agency's work with the Preferred Communities Program in the federal Office of Refugee Resettlement, according to IRIS' executive director, Maggie Mitchell Salem.

Salem said the decision came in response to the Trump administration's efforts to classify Afrikaners, a population of Dutch-descendant white South Africans, as refugees

and prioritize their resettlement while operations of the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program — which partners with the Office of Refugee Resettlement to oversee refugee entry — remain otherwise suspended.

Church World Service, the international resettlement agency that oversees IRIS, had asked IRIS in early September if its members would join the agency in pledging support to refugees who enter the U.S. through the Preferred Communities Program, Salem added.

The decision marks the first time in IRIS' 43-year history that the organization will not participate in refugee reception through the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program, Salem said.

"The refugee program is not about accepting people who you feel moral alignment with," Salem

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Students vote on menus

BY JERRY GAO AND ASHER BOISKIN
STAFF REPORTERS

Until Tuesday, students can vote on dishes for two food stations in Commons: Lotus and Pasta e Basta. The winning options will appear in the next menu cycle.

For Lotus, students can choose between three bowl options — Korean fried chicken or tofu; chicken tikka masala or dal makhani; and, thirdly, sauteed jade chicken or tofu with snow peas and green beans in a white sauce. At Pasta e Basta, students can select one of three new house-made pasta sauces — wild mushroom cream, heirloom tomato or delicate squash.

"The dishes which receive the most votes will be offered at those stations after Fall break," Michael van Emmenes, a top Yale Hospitality administrator, wrote in an email to the News.

The announcement came on Tuesday in an email sent by the Yale College Council dining policy team. The email also stated that students will be able to add cheese to their dishes at the Pasta e Basta station.

The new system, which allows students to shape the rotating menu, follows a period of significant change for Commons dining. Beginning this semester, students on meal plans can no longer use swipes for lunch at Commons or the grab-and-go Bow Wow, instead paying with dining points. Each Commons meal

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INSIDE THE NEWS

Dave Rudin GRD '85 studied Egyptology at Yale. Now, he photographs the Bulldogs from the sidelines.

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