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College, facing tax, dips into reserves

BY ANAYAH ACCILIEN
STAFF REPORTER

Yale College is drawing from its reserves for the first time in four years, even with more income from tuition and the University endowment than last year, as it attempts to pay $26 million in endowment tax costs this fiscal year without additional budget cuts.

Yale's budget book for fiscal year 2027, which was released last month, includes a new line that denotes how much each school contributes to the broader University's endowment tax, which increased by more than five times starting in July. That cost, which depends on how much of the school's budget draws from endowment investment returns, was set at $26 million for the College.

The College's budget for the fiscal year, which runs from July 2026 to June 2027, denotes a net shortage of $3.3 million. The College cut $3 million from its operating expenses last year in preparation for the tax hike, Lewis said in an interview last month. The rest, he told the News this month, will be offset by reserved fund balances.

Lewis said that figure represents reserves from previous years, often consisting of donations or endowment distributions that were not spent. Yale College had most recently dipped into its reserves to fill a deficit in fiscal year 2023, and

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Reeti Malhotra / Multimedia Managing Editor

Unions fill Beinecke amid contract talks

BY KELLYN KOLBER
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

Red projected lighting, the din of cowbells and several hundred Yale union workers flooded Beinecke Plaza Wednesday evening as workers rallied for higher wages, affordable health care and stronger job protections amid negotiations over contracts for thousands of University employees.

The crowd gathered outside Phelps Gate around 5:30 p.m. and marched along College Street before convening on Beinecke Plaza. Ian Dunn, the spokesperson for the local UNITE HERE unions and New Haven Rising, said that the aim of the rally was to get a fair contract for workers at Local 34 and Local 35 and to help negotiate the first contract for postdoctoral researchers.

"The best thing for them is to hear us and to let them know that we are united," said Red Maldonado, a Yale cook. "We are together, and we are going to fight for what is right."

The unions followed Yale's protocol for requesting the space for a gathering, according a Yale spokesperson, in what appears to have been the first by the unions on Yale property since the University set its updated protest guidelines in August 2024.

"Local 34 followed the university's established policies and procedures for requesting and using Beinecke Plaza," the University's central communications office wrote in an email to the News. "Yale supports the community's ability to gather and engage in dialogue in accordance with these policies."

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McInnis forms group on sexual misconduct

BY ARIA LYNN-SKOV
STAFF REPORTER

Yale President Maurie McInnis said she formed a presidential advisory committee to combat sexual misconduct on campus after a case of alleged gang rape at Cornell ignited a nationwide reckoning on the issue.

The standing committee will focus on the "enormously complicated" work around "prevention, education, resources to support students" McInnis said, work that will include reporting and investigation processes as well as mental health support. The committee was formed this semester, following a September lawsuit at Cornell, where a former student, referred to as Jane Doe, sued the university and a fraternity over an alleged gang rape and drugging in 2024.

"As a woman, as a mother, it is a topic that I am very dedicated to," McInnis said in a Wednesday interview. "This work will be ongoing until we have zero sexual misconduct on our campus. So having a standing committee, I think, is going to be the way that allows us just to continually improve, and hopefully continually lower the incidents."

The committee members have not yet been finalized but will include both faculty and staff, among them those who "do this work on a regular basis," and those "who are experts in the field," according to McInnis.

Every four years, Yale's Title IX office conducts a campus sexual climate survey. After the 2024 report, McInnis said, she asked for changes including increased education and prevention resources around sexual

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Amay Tewari

In video, ICE arrests at Tweed checkpoint

BY EVELYN RONAN
STAFF REPORTER

Security camera footage of a Sept. 4 Immigration and Customs Enforcement arrest at Tweed-New Haven Airport revealed that federal agents had access to the airport's security checkpoints, where they approached and detained a Southern Connecticut State University student.

The video, which was obtained by the News via a public records request, also appeared to show a federal agent pushing a protester who was filming the arrest. In a letter sent to the chair of the airport's board of directors after the detention, Mayor Justin Elicker urged Tweed to "not exceed" any cooperation with ICE beyond what is required by federal law and requested the airport update its protest policies to ensure demonstrators can gather on Tweed property.

"We're pretty restricted in what we can do," Elicker said in a Tuesday phone interview. "Federal law enforcement can operate in our city. They can enter public spaces. Our assessment is that because TSA is coordinating with them, they are able to have access to airports, even behind security."

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Trustees back McInnis after slip



Garrett Curtis / Photography Editor

BY SARA AGRAWAL
STAFF REPORTER

Yale's trustees said they had "full confidence" in University President Maurie McInnis after she was recorded describing them as "exhausting" in a hot-mic moment on Saturday.

McInnis was speaking with Yale College Dean Pericles Lewis before a Family Weekend event when she called a 2024 Family Weekend day that coincided with trustee meetings "a painful day," adding that "trustees are exhausting." A recording of the livestream was provided to the News by the Endowment Justice Collective, and McInnis has since said she regrets her remarks.

In a Monday statement to the News, the Yale board of trustees — the University's highest governing body — affirmed their commitment to working with McInnis.

"The Yale Board of Trustees continues to have full confidence in President McInnis," Senior Trustee Marta Tellado GRD '02 said in a statement on behalf of the board of trustees. "We and President McInnis remain com-

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Federal funding cuts disrupt global health research



Linxi Cindy Zeng

BY KATE CASTRO
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

Some Yale global health researchers said the disruption caused by federal funding cuts has reached a level they have not yet seen.

Research income in the Epidemiology of Microbial Diseases department fell 12 percent in the last fiscal year as federal grant terminations, delays and pauses affected many labs that study vector-borne and poverty-related diseases. The department brought in $21.3 million in fiscal year 2026, down from $24.3 million the year before, according to Michael Cappello, the department's chair, who said he received the figures from the School of Public Health's finance office.

"Knowing that in any day I could open up my email and find out that those grants have been terminated without warning has kind of a paralyzing effect," Cappello said in a video interview.

Most of the department's funding comes from federal sources, including the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

In 2025, the NIH shifted toward multi-year funded awards, where funds are given up front, meaning the agency gave fewer awards in fiscal year 2025 than in previous years. The NIH

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Inside The News

"Between Worlds," which opened on Sept. 27, showcases the potential of the center to construct original yet perennial contemporary exhibits.

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ADMISSIONS The percentage of matriculated first years who identify as Native American is approximately 1 percent this year, down from a consistent 3 percent for each of the last five years.

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TECHNOLOGY Researchers explained how they use artificial intelligence in their research and what their hopes are for future applications.

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