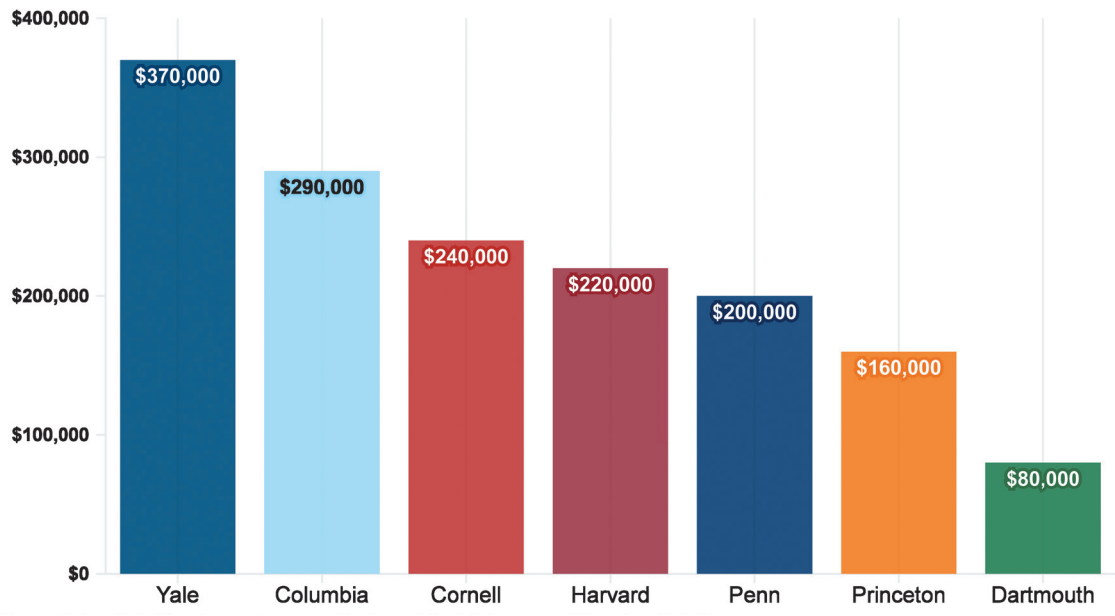
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Yale Daily News

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Yale outspends Ivies on lobbying



Brown University's filing has not appeared in the public database as of Tuesday, Oct. 21. / **Aiden Zhou, Data Editor**

BY ASHER BOISKIN
STAFF REPORTER

Yale spent $370,000 on lobbying the federal government during the third quarter of 2025 — its highest quarterly total this year and an increase from the $320,000 it reported over the summer — according to new federal disclosures filed Monday.

That brings the University's total lobbying expenditures for 2025 to $890,000, extending an upward trend as Yale expands its engagement in Washington amid threats to its endowment and research funding. Yale also spent more this quarter than the six other Ivy League universities whose lobbying disclosures were available — all but Brown University.

"The university works to communicate higher education's impact and Yale's mission and priorities to legislators on both sides of the aisle," Richard Jacob, the associate vice president for federal and state relations, wrote in a statement to the News. "We are also sharing the ways in which Yale is addressing problems across American society."

The University spent $250,000 in the first quarter of 2025 and $320,000 in the second.

Yale ranks at the top of the pack among Ivy League institutions for lobbying expenditures in quarter three. Columbia reported $290,000, followed by Cornell with $240,000, Harvard with $220,000, Penn with $200,000 and Princeton with $160,000. Dartmouth spent $80,000. Brown's filing had not yet appeared in the public database as of Tuesday.

Dartmouth and Yale are the only Ivy League universities not yet hit with direct funding cuts by the Trump administration.

Yale's latest report shows that the University's lobbying targeted legislation related to taxes, student financial aid and federal research funding. That includes the Republican-backed "One Big Beautiful Bill," which raised the tax on endowment investment returns from 1.4 to 8 percent for Yale and other similarly wealthy universities.

"Since last year, the university has increased its engagement with government officials – opening an office in Washington, D.C., and adding more in-person meetings for the president with government officials in Washington, D.C," Jacob wrote.

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Campus police union ratifies contract

BY REETI MALHOTRA
STAFF REPORTER

The Yale Police union ratified a new contract agreement with the University last week, ending over two years of tense negotiations.

Yale has not had a contract with its police union since June 2023, when the previous one expired. The new contract will be in effect until June 30, 2028. It marks a major breakthrough after years of fraught back-and-forth between the Yale Police Benevolent Association, or YPBA, and Yale negotiators.

The two parties had been at an impasse since November 2024, when the University presented its "Last, Best and Final Offer" and rejected the union's counterproposal a month later.

Yale negotiators' refusal to schedule continued negotiations in May prompted the union's members to vote unanimously to authorize a strike in June. Though no such strike occurred, the authorization marked a low in the collective bargaining process.

"I am pleased to announce that Yale University and the Yale Police Benevolent Association have reached a new contract agreement that continues to promote the safety and security of the Yale campus," Joe Sarno, Yale's head of union management relations, wrote in a statement on Tuesday afternoon.

Union leaders were ambivalent about the latest offer from Yale, Mike Hall, the police union's president, wrote in a Tuesday email to the News, but members voted to ratify the contract last Wednesday, Oct. 15.

"Unfortunately, the collective bargaining process was contentious from the start, with Yale playing hardball and employing union-busting tactics," Hall wrote.

In particular, Hall expressed concern that the pay increases in

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Kimberly Angeles, Contributing Photographer

Trust task force starts listening sessions

BY LEO NYBERG
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

The committee of professors assembled by University President Maurie McInnis to examine declining trust in universities kicked off a series of listening sessions Wednesday to hear commentary from students and staff.

The Committee on Trust in Higher Education, whose formation McInnis announced in April, plans to publish a report at the end of the academic year with findings and recommendations. In an interview with the News last November, McInnis said that declining trust in universities was one of her top concerns.

"Our mandate is a little bit more the external trust question," committee co-chair and history professor Beverly Gage '94 said in an interview. "But it seems pretty intimately tied to the campus climate and people's own bonds of trust with each other here."

The committee has not yet decided what to focus on, Gage said, but the group — which consists entirely of tenured faculty — will consider suggestions from the listening sessions to determine its focus.

According to Gage, participants brought up issues of internal trust

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Elijah Hurewitz-Ravitch, Staff Photographer

GOP fighter, mayoral underdog

BY ELIJAH HUREWITZ-RAVITCH
STAFF REPORTER

Steve Orosco likes being the "black sheep."

On a sunny Friday afternoon recently, the 44-year-old businessman, ex–mixed martial arts fighter and Republican candidate for mayor of New Haven, laid out a hypothetical scenario to illustrate his point.

"There's two rooms with a bunch of venture capitalists in both rooms," he said. "Room A has one hundred African Americans. Room B has one hundred white people. I'm walking in the white room every single time, because I'm gonna be the one person that's different. And everyone in that room is gonna say, 'Yo, who is this guy, and why is he in here?'"

After three failed runs for state or local office, Orosco is used to hearing that question. He faces an uphill battle as the Republican challenging the incumbent Democratic mayor, Justin Elicker, in a deep-blue city.

Early voting in the election began on Monday. In interviews with the News and at a mayoral debate last month, Elicker has criticized Orosco for a lack of active engagement in New Haven's civic life and defended his own record on education, affordable housing and public safety.

But Orosco is undaunted, fueled by an unrelenting desire to win.

"Going into the Democratic machine," he said, "people are like, 'You're crazy.' That's all right. I like being David versus Goliath."

Orosco comes from a mixed-race household. His mother, who is white, was raised in what he described as an upper-middle-class family in Taunton, Massachusetts. Her parents "disowned" her when she decided to marry Orosco's father, an immigrant from Trinidad, and for several years did not allow him in their house, Orosco said. He was raised in Newport, Rhode Island, where his mother worked as a nurse and his father as a bouncer and salesman.

At age 8, Orosco began wrestling — the pursuit that "made me the man I am today," he said.

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DS eyes expansion next year

BY JAEHA JANG AND OLIVIA WOO
STAFF REPORTERS

Directed Studies, Yale's yearlong Great Books program for first-year undergraduates, could expand by as much as 25 percent next year, Yale College Dean Pericles Lewis said in an interview.

On Wednesday, Lewis said Yale intends to offer as many as 10 discussion sections instead of the current eight, which would expand the total program size from 120 students to approximately 150. Lewis attributed the expansion of Directed Studies, often referred to as DS, to the program's popularity, which reached new heights this year with the highest waitlist in known records.

"I hope to expand the number of slots in DS because DS is popular — and rightly popular," Lewis said. "We're in the process of hiring the faculty for next year to make that possible."

The proposed plan drew generally positive responses from the Directed Studies community, though faculty members emphasized that the small seminar sizes are part of the program's essence. The program provides a survey of the Western canon through three courses each semester on historical and political thought, literature and philosophy.

This year, more than 110 first years were waitlisted for the program. Waitlisted students previously told the News that upperclassmen told

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Inside The News

Mayor Justin Elicker announced on Monday that New Haven has joined a lawsuit challenging new conditions for federal funds.

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WALK TO NYC Over October recess, 13 Yalies completed a four-day walk from New Haven to New York City.
PAGE 6 **NEWS**

GLAZE AND GRIND Following Donut Crazy's statewide closures, a similar shop, Glaze and Grind, is launching 290 York St.
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