FROM THE FRONT

"I must be crazy now. Maybe I dream too much."
I LOVE YOU CÉLINE DION

Yale spent $370,000 on lobbying in most recent quarter

LOBBYING FROM PAGE 1

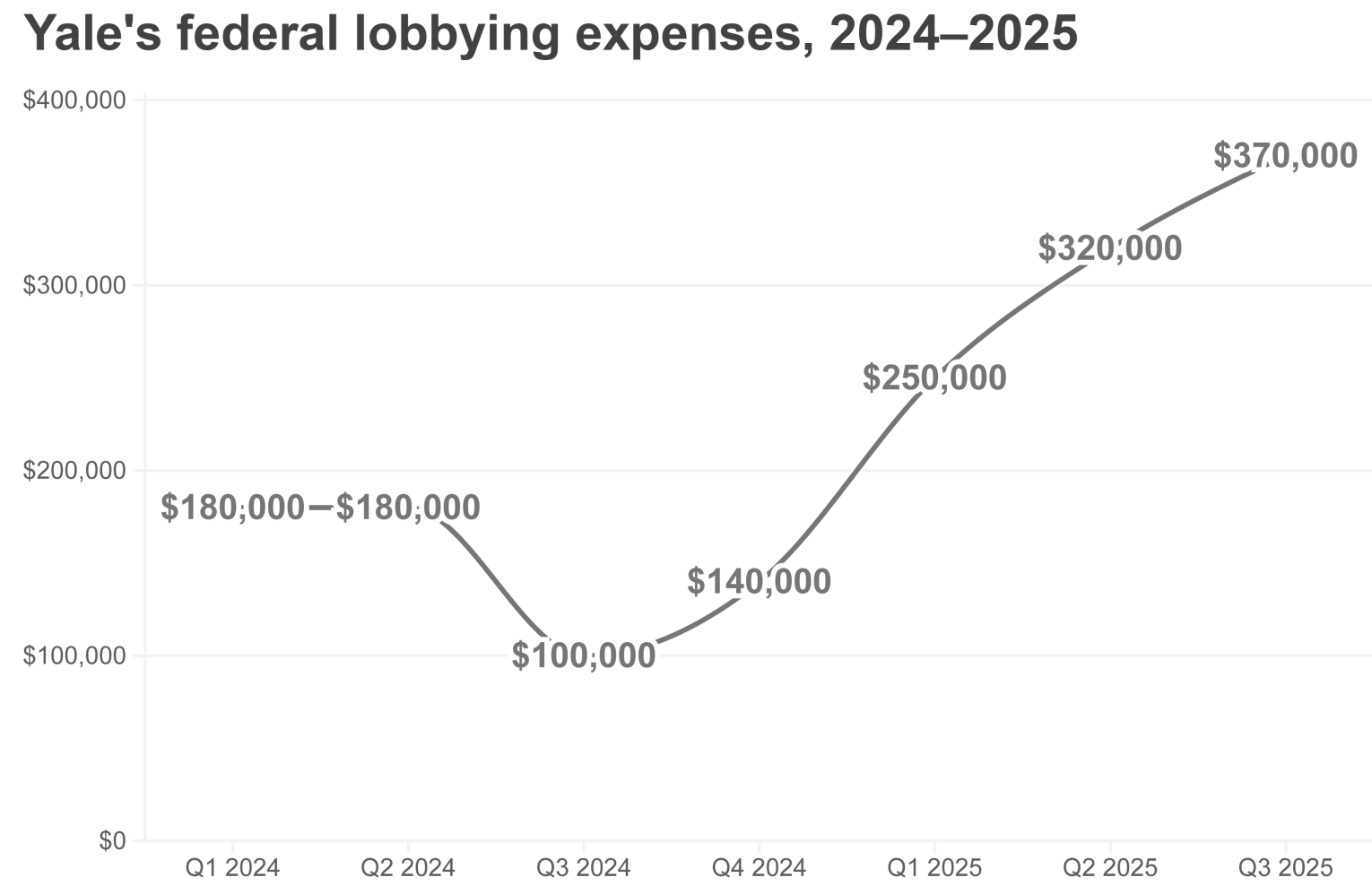
Yale retained Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld during quarter three, which lobbied on "issues related to endowment tax and free speech" and engaged with the U.S. House of Representatives, Senate and White House.

Akin Gump policy advisor Zach Deatherage — who served as legislative director for New York Rep. Elise Stefanik, a Republican, from 2023 to 2025 — lobbied for Yale this quarter. In 2024, after Yale police arrested 47 pro-Palestinian student protesters for trespassing on Beinecke Plaza, Stefanik posted on X that the University's "failure to protect students is outrageous and unacceptable."

Akin Gump consultant Lamar Smith '69, a former Republican congressman from Texas, continued advocating for the University this quarter.

Yale retained Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck in quarter three, which lobbied for "issues related to higher education," according to its filing. As in quarter two, Brownstein employed lobbyists Evan Corcoran, a former personal defense attorney for Trump, and Marc Lampkin, whom the firm describes as a "veteran Republican lobbyist," to advocate for Yale.

Yale's lobbying touched on eight bills besides the "One Big Beautiful Bill." Seven of the bills — including the "National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2026" — have implications for university research funding, according to the filing.



Yale on Monday disclosed $370,000 in federal lobbying expenses — the University's highest quarterly total this year and part of a growing push in Washington.. / **Aiden Zhou, Data Editor**

During quarter three, Yale also engaged with the "Student Compensation and Opportunity through Rights and Endorsements (SCORE) Act," which, according to the filing, contains "provisions related to name, image, and likeness rights of student athletes in college athletics."

"Yale has not taken a position on the SCORE Act," Jacob wrote in his statement. "The university took the introduction of the SCORE as an opportunity to explain Yale's approach to college athletics."

Yale's fourth-quarter report, covering lobbying activities from Oct. 1 through Dec. 31, is due Jan. 20, 2026.

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New Yale police contract caps off two years of tense negotiations



The contract ratified last week by members of the Yale Police Benevolent Association marked a turnaround from an apparent decline in negotiations over the summer, when the union voted unanimously to authorize a strike. / **Kimberly Angeles, Contributing Photographer**

CONTRACT FROM PAGE 1

the new contract failed to make up for recent years' inflation.

"The YPBA brought the proposed Collective Bargaining Agreement to its membership without a recommendation on whether or not to ratify," Hall wrote. "It believed the wages offered by the University were inadequate to compensate for the record-level inflation which occurred during 2021 and 2022. Inflation reached a forty-year high, with soaring grocery and housing costs."

The wage increases in the new contract are "generous," Sarno wrote.

"Since the police union's last contract expired, Yale has worked diligently to come to this new agreement, which provides generous pay — among the best in the state — along with outstanding and enhanced benefits," Sarno wrote in his statement.

Sarno insisted that the University had negotiated in good faith.

"The agreement is the result of extensive and thoughtful negotiations by all involved and reflects a fair balance of interests while also achieving long-term sustainability for the university," he wrote. "From the outset, the university's priority has been protecting the safety and well-being of our students, faculty, staff, and visitors. This contract achieves that."

In September, the YPBA and University reported that relations between the two organizations were improving after the strike authorization over the summer.

But over parents' weekend this month, a truck displaying the Yale police badge and signs that read "Yale is a union buster employee" and "Yale doesn't negotiate. Yale dictates" was seen driving around campus.

In a phone call on Oct. 8, Hall declined to comment on the surge in the union's advocacy and whether it marked a downturn in negotiations.

The truck's signage continued a pattern of YPBA advocacy during high-visibility events to drive support for their contract demands. During Bulldog Days this past spring, more than 30 union members handed leaflets to parents and students outside the Schwarzman Center, imploring them to support a fair contract for "the people protecting you."

The union had been noticeably quiet during this year's freshman move-in — a day leveraged by the union for the two consecutive prior years to put public pressure on the University.

Hall wrote on Tuesday that despite the contract ratification, the YPBA's "experience with the University in this round of bargaining" has prompted the union to "reevaluate its negotiation strategy going forward."

The union had continued to work under a contract extension agreement after the previous contract's expiration. However, Hall stated that the union may have to "abandon that practice."

The YPBA's previous contract with the University came into effect in 2018.

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Committee on trust plans class, events

LISTENING FROM PAGE 1

at Yale, especially as budget constraints cause cutbacks across campus. Around 10 students, faculty and staff attended Wednesday's private listening session.

"I think it's really important to include in this report how Yale's affordability affects how we are perceived on a national scale," Riley Avelar '27, one of three undergraduates who participated in the session, said.

The sessions are intended to be small-group discussions about trust in higher education, according to the invitation. Gage pointed to political diversity, cost of education and admissions as issues the committee might address.

In an email to the News, sociology professor and committee co-chair Julia Adams described gathering feedback from Yale students, faculty and staff as "vital for the committee's work."

McInnis allowed the committee to choose how they would like to present their findings to the University and the public. According to Gage, the committee has decided to write a report to outline the problem of trust in higher education and propose a set of ways for Yale to chip away at internal and external mistrust.

"Our assumption is that the report is going to be one node of what we do," Gage said. "But then once the report comes out, there's a lot more conversation to facilitate."

The committee is also set to teach HIST 3127: "Trust et Veritas: The Public Legitimacy of Universities" next semester. According to Gage, the class will engage with primary sources in Yale's archives to unpack the ways in which American universities have lost public trust.

The committee has previously been criticized for having a faculty-only membership. Gage said the solution to mistrust in higher education has to come from universities, not outside commentators.

"We need to face some of the critiques and problems that we've encountered quite seriously and then think about solutions that align with our values, our priorities," Gage said.

The committee is accepting comments on its website, and they are actively soliciting concerns from outside groups and alumni, according to Adams. Neither Gage nor Adams specified which outside groups have been influential in the committee's deliberation.

The next listening sessions will be on Oct. 23, Oct. 28 and Oct. 29.

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On Wednesday, the Committee on Trust in Higher Education drew roughly 10 attendees in the first of its four listening sessions. / **Kimberly Angeles, Contributing Photographer**