

Report to the University Senate on

Undergraduate Education and Instruction

Academic Affairs

February 3, 2025

UConn

Academic Affairs

- **Center for Career Readiness and Life Skills**
Associate Vice Provost Jim Lowe
- **Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL)**
Interim Director Gladis Kersaint
- **Honors and Enrichment Programs**
Associate Vice Provost Jennifer Lease Butts
- **Office of Undergraduate Advising**
Director Erin Ciarimboli

UNDERGRADUATE FIRST DESTINATION

2023
to
2024

Positive Outcomes Rate
as of 6 months post-graduation

92%

percentage of
graduates who fall into
the categories below

58%

Employed

33%

Continuing Education

<1%

Serving in the U.S.
Armed Forces

<1%

Participating in
Volunteer Service

<1%

Other

In-State Grads Staying in CT

Out-of-State Grads Staying in CT

 76%

of employed in-state
graduates work in CT

 17%

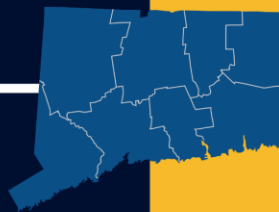
of employed out-of-state
graduates work in CT

 77%

of in-state graduates continuing
their education are enrolled at
CT institutions

 42%

of out-of-state graduates
continuing their education
are enrolled at CT institutions





13%

increase in positive outcomes rate for graduates that participated in at least one experiential learning opportunity

Experiential Learning



82%

of graduates participated in at least one experiential learning opportunity prior to graduation

13%

increase in graduates participating in experiential learning when utilizing Career Services



Utilizing Career Services

85% vs. 60%

UConn

National

The percent of UConn students utilizing Career Services during their college experience is 25 percentage points higher than the national rate.

**2024 - National Association of Colleges & Employers Study*

+25%



Employment Related to Career Goals

68%

when utilizing Career Services

58%

when not utilizing Career Services

The percent of employed graduates who said their job is either directly or very related to their current career goals increases by 10% when utilizing Career Services.

+10%

Average Yearly Starting Salary



\$63,000

Graduates that utilized Career Services had an average annual starting salary \$14,500 higher than those that did not.

+\$14,500

Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning

Key Accomplishments Across All Units

Faculty Development

- Comprehensive AI Series for Faculty
- Course Design Retreat for Common Curriculum
 - NFO
- Mobile Summer Institute on Equity & Inclusion

Office of Academic Program Assessment

- Integrated all undergraduate programs into assessment
- Hosted 3rd Annual Assessment Institute
- Partnered with Grad School to define institution-level objectives

EdTech

- Facilitated 300+ consultations for HuskyCT Ultra Course View transition
- Developed 80+ tutorial videos
- Transitioned all 1000- and 2000-level courses to Ultra Course View

eCampus

- Developed 64 new online courses
- Supported migration from Learn to Ultra
- Facilitated anti-racism course development

Media Production

- Produced videos for new faculty resources
- Upgraded Jorgensen studio with energy-efficient lighting
- Captioned courses for accessibility

CETL New Initiatives and DEIA Efforts

New Initiatives

- Faculty Development: Workshop series for neurodiverse student support and informational videos for new faculty
- OAPA: UASCEND project with funding for improved assessment practices and leading assessment for Common Curriculum activities
- EdTech: Department-focused workshops for faculty
- eCampus: Developing online course teaching awards
- Media Production: Expanding photo databases for social media and producing videos for UASCEND project

DEIA

- Faculty Development: Equity embedded in workshops and initiatives
- OAPA: Focus on reducing disparities in student outcomes
- EdTech: Collaboration with accessibility staff for inclusive technology
- eCampus: Accessibility checklist for online courses
- Media Production: Spanish captions and accessible studio design

Health Professions Applicant Portfolios

307 Received ➤ **303** Coaching sessions

253 Unique applicant letter packets submitted



\$640,000 distributed in research awards

Established the Caxide Scholar Program

98 students participating Work-Study Research Assistant Program students

Launched Two-Part (2-Credit) UNIV-3995 for current post-baccalaureate cohort

Numbers to Celebrate

600 ~ Largest entering first-year Honors class

454 ~ Largest graduating class



HONORS PROGRAM



UHL Leadership Experience

Redesigned to expand opportunities and refocus on student learning

Gateway Mentor Program

IMJR students mentored by UNIV 2600 Gateway students

- *Application assistance*
- *Community building*



8 UConn Students awarded Gilman Scholarships from the U.S. Department of State

UConn named a Fulbright HSI (*Hispanic-Serving Institution*)

Mariam Vargas '25 (CLAS) selected as UConn's first Rangel Scholar

Indie Major Podcast

Released its 20th episode



Office of Undergraduate Advising

Key Accomplishments

- Delivered academic onboarding, education, and course registration for over 6,400 first-year students across five campuses in Summer 2024.
- Conducted targeted outreach to unregistered first-year students each term, contributing to a 92% first-year retention rate at Storrs.

New Initiatives

- Implemented Undergraduate Advising Microgrants to pilot and scale innovative efforts in student registration, supportive transitions, faculty advising, and academic coaching.

Partnerships

- Established key working groups and continued collaborative efforts to support students readmitted after dismissal, campus change students, and cross-campus communications efforts.

DEI

- Adapted and grew our advising professional development series, which includes over 20 programs each year targeting topics such as new faculty advisors, connections with campus partners, and culturally competent advising.

Future Priorities

- Addressing growth in professional staff advisor caseloads and responsibilities, in tandem with significant growth in undergraduate enrollment.
- Exploring faculty advising roles and responsibilities, enabling meaningful rewards and recognition for quality advising.

By the Numbers

938 undergraduate advisors across all campuses (as of 1/2025)
-833 faculty advisors
-99 professional staff advisors
-6 other (emeritus, special payroll, grad students)

Academic Standing By-Law Changes

A comprehensive review of UConn's academic standing and dismissal processes led to critical changes in related Senate By-Laws, terminology, required time away after dismissal, and student support systems.

Honoring Impactful Advising

Abigail Clark (Nursing), Jenna Hartwell (Economics), Kristen Dostaler (CAHNR), and Vida Samuel (HDFS faculty, Stamford) received awards for Outstanding Undergraduate Advising in Spring 2024