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Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee
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In 1975, the General Assembly first allowed two students, one graduate student and one undergraduate student to represent the student body on the University of Connecticut Board of Trustees. Since then, the UConn student body has been a part of critical decision making for the past 40 years. The Trustee seat is the most influential student position within the university; allowing us students to have a direct vote in how UConn is organized and run.

Today, the University and the Undergraduate student body faces new many new challenges, and it is imperative that the voices of all the students at this university are heard. Right now, the Governor's budget would cut 40 million dollars from UConn. Should this be passed, the university will have many difficult decisions to make over the next few years. Anything the Board of Trustees is going to consider cutting will affect the student body directly. During this turbulent time, students will need all the resources that they can in order to advocate for their rights as students. Another student trustee will provide that resource, and ensure that we will always have a strong presence in representing our ideals. In addition to any looming budget cut, there are many other topics that the board will consider in the coming years that students need to be able to advocate for or against. While the master plan's fate is uncertain with massive budget cuts suddenly becoming a possibility, an additional student trustee is essential to speaking and voting on what is in the best interest of the UConn undergraduates. The proposed master plan would invest millions into UConn and its implementation would span over several years. With two trustees, there would be a sustained and informed student presence overseeing the process. The next few years will be critical for the university, and even more important for students. Two undergraduate trustees would ensure that the voice of the thousands of students at UConn across the state of Connecticut will be communicated and involved in the decision making process.