



## QUESTIONS FOR THE NOMINEE TO THE UCONN BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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### UCONN BOARD OF TRUSTEES ([CGS §§ 10A-103](#) & [10A-104](#))

The board makes rules for governing the university and develops a mission statement for it that includes the role and scope of each branch campus. It establishes schools, colleges, divisions, and departments within the university and coordinates branch and institutional services and programs. It oversees the financing and construction of UConn 2000, prepares the university's budget, sets tuition and fees, promotes fundraising, and establishes gifts policies for the university's foundation.

The board consists of 21 members. The governor appoints 12 members who serve staggered six-year terms. Students elect two members, one undergraduate and one graduate, who serve staggered two-year terms. Alumni elect two members to staggered four-year terms.

The governor; the agriculture, economic and community development, and education commissioners; and the chairperson of the UConn Health Center Board of Directors are ex-officio members.

### QUESTIONS

1. What steps should UConn take to encourage more of its students to remain in Connecticut after graduating?
2. Student loan debt has become increasingly burdensome for college graduates. What is your assessment of the amount of debt that UConn graduates have? What steps can UConn take to mitigate student debt levels?
3. Demographic projections indicate that the size of the state's high school graduating cohorts will decrease over the next decade. How can UConn increase enrollment levels in light of these projections?



4. Have UConn's branch campuses been successful in meeting enrollment targets? What steps can the board take to ensure that the branch campuses thrive, unlike UConn's Torrington campus that recently closed last May?
5. Last summer, the board decided not to move UConn's graduate business program from Constitution Plaza to the new Hartford Front Street campus, instead renewing a ten-and-a-half year lease. What can the board do to ensure that the business program's enrollment will continue to grow and justify the decision to maintain its separate location?
6. UConn recently decided to make some of its expenditures more transparent by posting human resources information, such as salaries and bonuses, on the state's Core CT system. What are your thoughts on expanding this transparency to include posts about university contracts and other types of spending?
7. Do you think it would benefit the university to maintain the UConn Foundation's Freedom of Information Act exemption?
8. In their most recent UConn audit, the State Auditors of Public Accounts reviewed project approval requests submitted to the Board of Trustees as deferred maintenance projects under the UConn 2000 infrastructure improvement program. The auditors found that half of these projects were expansion or upgrade projects, rather than deferred maintenance projects, in violation of state statute ([CGS § 10a-109ee](#)). What steps should the board take in response to the auditors' report?
9. A recent article in the *CT Mirror* ("[The state of UConn in 16 charts](#)," Jan. 10, 2017) reported that managerial and executive positions have increased at UConn at a faster rate than student enrollment, and the university is spending 22% more on salaries for these positions over the last four academic years. As a board member, how would you explain these administrative increases to students when tuition and fees have increased and the rate of faculty hires slows?

10. Last year, the General Assembly passed a new law requiring all Connecticut colleges and universities to use an affirmative consent, or “yes means yes,” standard when determining whether sexual activity is consensual as part of their sexual assault policies ([PA 16-106](#)). What are your thoughts on this new policy and the university’s role as its enforcer?

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