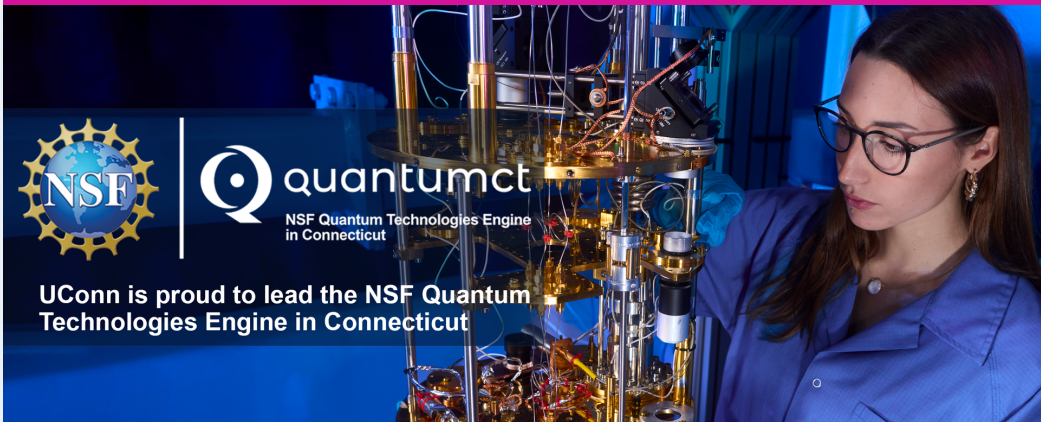


Academic Affairs UPDATE



July 16, 2026



INSIGHTS

From the Provost

I am excited to share that on July 14, 2026, [NSF announced](#) that the NSF Quantum Technologies Engine in Connecticut (QuantumCT Engine) was awarded to the University of Connecticut. The award has been years in the making and represents the sustained effort of a committed team comprising Yale University, Southern Connecticut State University, Connecticut Innovations, ConnCORP, industry partners, the State of Connecticut, and other educational and nonprofit organizations over the past four years.

My colleague Engines co-principal investigator Michael Crair of Yale University and I attended the NSF Engines orientation program on Capitol Hill where the NSF announcement was made. The NSF director and a few senators spoke, emphasizing how transformative the program and the new engines are to America. Our QuantumCT Engine advances use-inspired research, workforce development, and technology translation initiatives designed to build a quantum-driven innovation ecosystem in Connecticut.

We are thrilled that the NSF recognizes Connecticut's potential to become a national leader in quantum technology innovation. We have an amazing team of colleagues, collaborators, and partners who brought us to this result by being collegial, cohesive, and focused on working towards the same goal. A big thank you to everyone who contributed. The award represents a major milestone for our state and our university.

I look forward to working with all of you and our many partners to build on QuantumCT's success for the benefit of our university and our state.

With best regards,

Pamir Alpay
Provost & Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

NEWS



Celebrating Outstanding Service

The Provost's Office has recognized three members of the UConn community with the 2026 Provost's Outstanding Service Award, honoring sustained contributions that go above and beyond in support of the University. This year's recipients are Dr. Mary Anne Roshni Amalaradjou, Rodney Rock, and Petra Clark-Dufner, whose leadership and service have strengthened UConn, supported students and colleagues, and expanded the University's impact across Connecticut. [Read more about this year's recipients.](#)

UConn Staff Receive International Blackboard Catalyst Award

Kaitlyn Anderson, of the Center for Career Readiness and Life Skills, and Sally Chamberland, of the Office of Program Assessment, have been named recipients of a 2026 Blackboard Catalyst Award in the category of assessment and institutional effectiveness. Presented annually by Blackboard, the Catalyst Awards celebrate institutions and individuals around the world who are using Blackboard solutions to drive meaningful change in teaching, learning, accessibility, engagement, and institutional success.

UPDATES

New Policy on Registered Student Organizations

UConn has adopted a new [Policy on Registered and Trustee Student Organizations](#) establishing a University-wide framework for its relationship with student organizations across all campuses. As many faculty and staff serve as RSO advisors or work with organizations connected to academic departments, the Department of Student Activities encourages everyone to familiarize themselves with the policy.

Key provisions include:

- Registered Student Organizations (RSOs) are independent entities responsible for their own decisions, activities, contracts, and viewpoints. The University does not assume liability or provide insurance coverage for RSO activities.
- RSOs independently manage and use non-University funds and may enter into agreements with external parties using those funds without University review or approval, unless otherwise required by University policy.
- Advisors serve in a supportive role but are not responsible for the actions or conduct of an RSO or its members when acting appropriately and in good faith.

The Office of Student Organization Support and Involvement will provide additional advisor training and resources this fall. Questions may be directed to solid@uconn.edu.

UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST
Gulley Hall
352 Mansfield Road, Unit 1086
Storrs, Connecticut 06269-1086
academicaffairs.uconn.edu

Phone: [\(860\) 486-4037](tel:(860)486-4037)
Email: provost@uconn.edu

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PROVOST'S OFFICE