



CENTER FOR REAL ESTATE AND
URBAN ECONOMIC STUDIES

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October 2025 Edition



Bridging Boston: Through Plates and Traits

You are warmly invited to join us for our upcoming reception, an evening of connection, conversation, and community, at the newly renovated Omni Parker House. Details about this years event have been provided below. This reception is open to all and free to attend.



BRIDGING BOSTON

SHARE A PLATE, SHOW
YOUR TRAITS—NETWORK
WITH UCONN REAL
ESTATE

JOIN US!

OMNI PARKER HOUSE
60 SCHOOL STREET
BOSTON, MA 02108

THURSDAY OCTOBER 9TH

6:00-8:00 PM

[Register Online](#)

[Download the Flyer](#)

*Note: if you are bringing a guest (or guests), kindly provide their contact information as well.

We look forward to seeing you in Boston next week.

Five UConn Student Teams Innovate Decarbonization This Summer Through Eversource-Supported Challenge



Article from:

UConn Today

Article by:

Francesco Rouhana

Photo credit:

Sean Flynn / UConn Photo

Through Eversource-Supported Challenge. The winning team will receive additional funding to continue their work throughout the academic year.

UConn is deepening its commitment to a sustainable future through a student-focused innovation challenge designed to reduce carbon emissions and promote clean energy solutions. In partnership with Eversource Energy, UConn has launched its third annual summer competition aimed at engaging students in the design of the future energy landscape.

The competition has attracted an impressive group of participants, with five finalist teams comprising 11 students – five undergraduates and six graduates. These talented individuals represent eight diverse departments and schools: the Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, School of Civil and Environmental Engineering, and School of Computing in the College of Engineering; the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics in the College of Agriculture, Health and Natural Resources (CAHNR); the School of Business; and the Department of Chemistry and the Department of Mathematics in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

This multidisciplinary representation brings together diverse perspectives and technical expertise to address the complex challenges of decarbonization and the energy transition across UConn campuses and Connecticut municipalities.

Each team will receive summer funding and be paired with mentors from UConn faculty and Eversource Energy. The mentorship will support students in refining their proposals and addressing the practical dimensions of their clean energy solutions. This hands-on guidance is designed to help participants explore real-world applications of their research and ideas.

The culmination of the teams' work will be presented at the [2025 Sustainable Clean Energy Summit](#) on Monday, Oct. 27, 2025. The event will take place alongside the [2025 North American Power Symposium](#), offering students a valuable platform to present their innovations to an audience of industry professionals, researchers, utility leaders and state officials.

One of the projects/student teams selected for the 2025 Clean Energy & Sustainability Innovation Program was:

- Fuel Cell as a Catalyst for Local Economic and Environmental Development ([Learn more about the project](#))

Students:

[Read more ›](#)

- Songyang Zhou (Master's Student, Data Science),
- **Jane Torrence '27 (BUS)**

Jane is a Real Estate & Urban Economics major at the University of Connecticut.

20th Annual Golf Tournament Recap



**Congratulations to our
1st place winners!**
Joe McMahon | Jake Kelly
Daniel Russell | Colin Igoe

The UConn Real Estate Center Council held its 20th annual Golf Tournament on September 16, 2025 at The Golf Club at Oxford Greens. In addition to perfect weather, the event had an incredible turnout, with over 100 alumni, industry friends and students participating.

Thank you to all of those who attended, and to our amazing sponsors who made this event possible.

Thank you to all of our student players who participated:

Kiley Barbagallo | Jason Carroll | Alayna Christina | Jacob DiScuillo
Daniel Gaudet | George Horst | Davio Visocchi.

A special thank you to all of our sponsors for this event:

Acadia Realty | Altus Group | Horvath & Tremblay | LoopNet by Ten-X
Newmark | Northmarq | SIOR CT/W. MA Chapter | SitusAMC

We look forward to seeing everyone at the next tournament!

SAVE THE DATE: 9/15/2026

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PeoplesBank Arena set to reopen Oct. 17th after \$145M overhaul



Ben Weiss (left), general manager of the PeoplesBank Arena, and Michael Freimuth, executive director of the Capital Region Development Authority, inside the partially renovated arena in downtown Hartford. HBJ Photo | Steve Laschever

Article From: Hartford Business Journal | **Article By:** [Michael Puffer](#) | **Article Date:** September 22, 2025

Upgrades already draw more shows. Nearly five months after closing for a \$145 million renovation, Hartford's PeoplesBank Arena will reopen Oct. 17, when the Hartford Wolf Pack takes the ice.

At first glance, longtime fans may not see sweeping changes. The overhaul is largely focused on behind-the-scenes upgrades — premium spaces for VIPs and performers, new escalators and loading areas, and infrastructure designed to make the 50-year-old venue more attractive to touring acts.

Still, some improvements will be obvious.

The arena’s 6,000 lower-bowl seats will have been replaced with padded chairs, the walls now sport fresh blue and gray paint, concourses will be modernized and the rebuilt stage has been pushed further back, freeing up about 1,000 more seats for concerts.

“The real magic is making this building work for the industry,” said Michael Freimuth, executive director of the Capital Region Development Authority (CRDA), which oversees the arena. “That doesn’t always translate to the guy sitting in the seat. He might say, ‘How’s it any different?’ There’s a lot of back-of-house stuff.”

Booking momentum

Promoters are already responding. PeoplesBank Arena General Manager Ben Weiss said he has seen an increase in concert date holds.

“I’ve been here almost eight years, and this is the most interest we’ve had from artists, management or promoters that are putting holds on our calendar,” Weiss said. “They are asking for date availability and putting holds on dates based on their tour schedule.”

Historically, the arena averaged six to eight concerts each fiscal year. This year, despite losing the first quarter to construction, operator Oak View Group (OVG) expects at least 15 shows. In future years, Weiss said, the venue could host 25 to 30 concerts annually.

“The renovations, added premium seating, increased bookings — all of that will allow us to run the building in the black,” Weiss said.

Entertainment promoter Live Nation has three shows coming up before the close of the year at the Hartford arena — as opposed to just one in all of 2024 — including Stevie Nicks on Oct. 25, Playboi Carti on Nov. 8 and Pentatonix on Dec. 6. Two of the events are nearly sold out.

Live Nation also booked a Mary J. Blige concert in May.

“Looking at ticket sales, it’s very clear the public wants to go back to that venue,” said Jim Koplik, Live Nation’s president for Connecticut and upstate New York. “The interest is definitely much greater for people coming to the PeoplesBank Arena. We are seeing it.”

[Read more ›](#)



Hillside Real Estate Investors Mentorship Program



Shape the Future of Real Estate Leaders



HILLSIDE
REAL ESTATE INVESTORS



Join the Hillside Real Estate Investors Mentorship Program at UConn and make an impact by guiding the next generation of talent.

The Hillside Real Estate Investors (HREI) program at UConn is an experiential learning initiative where students manage a live real estate fund with guidance from industry partners and faculty.

Students source and evaluate potential investments, present recommendations, and gain real-world insights into the business of real estate.

We are proud to launch a mentorship program designed to give these students meaningful exposure to industry leaders. Each mentor-mentee relationship is authentic and self-directed, built around shared goals and professional interests.



Share
Your
Expertise



Build
Authentic
Connections



Open Doors
to Career
Opportunities



Inspire
Meaningful
Career Growth



Become a mentor today!
[Click here to sign-up](#)

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Building Connections. Sharing Opportunities.



Join the Center for Real Estate

Where emerging talent and industry leaders
come together to connect, collaborate, and grow.

Join our LinkedIn group today

Be part of the conversation

Your network starts here

Our group unites UConn students and alumni in real estate—across industries and around the globe. Connect, collaborate, and expand your network. If you're a current student or alum, [click here](#) to join.

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UConn Avery Point Plans Potential Housing for Students



A beautiful day at UConn's Avery Point campus (Aug. 28th, 2025). There have been discussion of housing at Avery Point dated back to July 2024. Photo courtesy of @uconnaverypoint on Instagram

State senators advocated for housing accommodations and new academic programing for the University of Connecticut's Avery Point campus at a board of trustees meeting on Sept. 17.

Senators Cathy Osten (D), Heather Somers (R), and State Rep. Aundré Bumgardner (D), attended the meeting bringing attention to investment in Avery Point.

"I believe it's been neglected because it's on the eastern part of the state and often the eastern part of the state is an afterthought by many administrations, not just this current administration, but many administrations," Osten said in an interview with the Daily Campus.

Osten serves as the deputy president pro tempore and represents Columbia, Franklin, Hebron, Lebanon, Ledyard, Lisbon, Marlborough, Montville, Norwich and Sprague in Senate District 19.

With Osten's district bordering District 18, she has worked alongside Somers, working on shoreline east, state tourism and advocacy efforts for the Avery Point campus.

"I started advocating for the campus because it's an important component in Eastern Connecticut and it is one of the four regional campuses, but UConn Avery Point has been a part of the fabric of Eastern Connecticut for a very long time," Osten said. "It is a site that has value."

The Avery Point campus is located on the Long Island Sound. It offers four degrees in English, General Studies, Marine Sciences and Maritime Studies. The regional campus offers graduate programs in several STEM-related fields [as stated on its website](#).

This campus is one of two campuses that do not currently have any on-campus housing options for students. "Traditionally, Avery Point students have rented housing in the region or commuted from their homes," UConn Spokesperson Stephanie Reitz said. "However, the availability of rental accommodations in the area has significantly dropped due to strong hiring at local industries, making it more difficult and expensive for Avery Point students to compete for rentals in the past few years."

[Read more ›](#)



Student Placement 2024-25

Has your firm recently hired a UConn Real Estate Intern or graduating Senior? We want to know about it!

Don't forget - the Center continues to offer Resume Books of students looking for internships and fulltime placement in the real estate industry.

To share your recent hire or for more information and to receive a copy of our student resume book, please send an email to: kathryn.oleary@uconn.edu or call 860-486-3227.



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