



MEMORANDUM

TO: University Senate
FROM: Samuel L. Stanley Jr., M.D.
President
DATE: February 6, 2017
SUBJECT: President's Report

I. PRESIDENT TRUMP'S EXECUTIVE ORDER & TRAVEL

President Donald Trump's recent Executive Order places a moratorium on issuing any visas to citizens of Iran, Iraq, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, and Yemen, or to those who were born in one of these countries for the next 90 days. During this 90-day period, SBU has advised current international students or scholars from these countries not to travel outside the United States unless absolutely necessary. Even after the 90-day period is complete, we are not sure how the visa or port of entry requirements may change and we are urging caution.

We have been working closely with students who were directly impacted by the EO and provided support services to students and faculty. Additionally, we held an informational forum for students, staff and faculty with immigration attorneys who provided information on the impact of the EO and answered visa and immigration questions.

II. STANFORD STUDY: STONY BROOK CREATES UPWARD INCOME MOBILITY FOR LOW INCOME STUDENTS

A recently released national study, [Mobility Report Cards: The Role of Colleges in Intergenerational Mobility](#), ranks Stony Brook among the top 10 colleges and universities in the nation for raising low income students up the ladder of opportunity. The study found that SBU educates a significant number of students at the bottom fifth of income distribution and that they then go on to earn in the top three-fifths of income distribution. The study tracked 14 years of financial records for college students, aged 18-22, at all public and private U.S. colleges and universities from 1999 through 2013. Using de-identified IRS data, researchers compared the reported earnings of college graduates in their early 30s to their parents' income during student college years. Researchers examined the percentage of students from each institution and found that Stony Brook's high mobility rate shows graduates reach high income levels within 10 years of graduation.

As noted by the authors of the study, "Some colleges, such as SUNY-Stony Brook, have a much larger fraction of children from low-income families yet have earnings outcomes that are nearly comparable to those at highly selective colleges such as Columbia. These colleges have very high mobility rates — they have large numbers of students who come from poor families and end up with high incomes."

III. STONY BROOK PARTNERS WITH K-12 SCHOOLS TO GUIDE STEM OUTREACH

A team at Stony Brook University, led by the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences (CEAS), has developed a comprehensive program to work with school districts on Long Island to better prepare students for careers in engineering, with support from the National Science Foundation (NSF) and National Grid, a corporate partner. The National Research Council's Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) aims to create a national foundation for all students to have a solid K-12 science education. To address NGSS mandates, the Stony Brook team will align activities and workshops to be consistent with the American Society for Engineering Education's objective that "all Americans will be able to apply concepts of science, technology, and mathematics to engineering processes and problems." The program, entitled Education, Guidance, Advancement, and Learning in Technology and Engineering (EGALITE), was designed to initiate partnerships and strategies to engage students, teachers, counselors, and faculty in the passion, challenge and opportunity of engineering.

IV. STATE BUDGET

New York State Governor **Andrew M. Cuomo** unveiled his proposed 2017-18 Executive Budget last month. Areas of the proposed budget with anticipated impact on Stony Brook include:

Hospital & Long Island State Veterans Home

- Slight Increase in LISVH Operating Funds (\$700,000)
- Eliminates Legislative Add-On for Hospitals (\$18.6M cut)
- Additional Spending Authority for Hospitals (\$87M)
- Critical Maintenance (\$50M)

Higher Education Proposals

- Excelsior Financial Aid Program (\$163M)
- NY DREAM Act (TAP eligibility)
- Predictable Tuition Plan (up to \$250 for 5 years), No MOE
- Increase in Statewide Critical Maintenance Funding
- Extension of SUNY Flex
- Investment & Performance Fund (\$18M) and Challenge Grants (\$55M)
- Design/Build Construction for Some Projects
- Inspector General for SUNY/CUNY & Chief Procurement Officer for NY State
- TAP Eligibility Tied to Tuition/Fee Increases
- Cuts to Various Programs, including: EOP, ATTAIN, SBDC, CATs and COEs

Economic Development & Transportation

- Life Sciences Initiative (\$650M/5years)
- REDC Round VII (\$750M)
- Renovation of Penn Station, LIRR stations, McArthur Airport, and Connection to Brookhaven National Laboratory
- Buy American Policy (over \$100K)
- Clean Water Infrastructure (\$2B), Wind Farm

V. CAMPAIGN FOR STONY BROOK UPDATE

We are in the final 17-month stretch of the Campaign for Stony Brook. While the finish line is in sight, we still need to raise \$83.7 million to meet our \$600 million goal. It will take a great effort, but if the past is any guide, we will continue to provide meaningful opportunities for donors to invest in the future of Stony Brook. To date, the Campaign has secured gifts and pledges totaling \$516.3 million. A small sample of beneficiaries include:

- \$1,000,000 for the Department of Chemistry
- \$1,000,000 from The Bernard Osher Foundation for the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI)
- \$600,000 to create The Leonard and Lillian Schneider Endowed Professorship in Trauma Surgery
- \$500,000 toward establishing the Joseph Lauher and Frank Fowler Endowed Chair in Materials Chemistry Fund
- \$240,000 from the Rauch Foundation for the Long Island Clean Water Partnership
- \$225,000 for the New York Regional Ocean Sciences Bowl and toward establishing a SoMAS Southampton Endowed Professorship
- Gifts of \$175,000 and \$148,000 for Centre ValBio to provide the surrounding villages with health services and environmental education
- \$100,000 for the Children's Hospital N.I.C.U. Development Fund
- \$100,000 for the Dr. Vito and Carolyn DeSimone Visiting Lectureship in Italian and Italian American Studies
- \$100,000 for the Alda Kavli Foundation Leadership Program Workshops in the Alda Center for Communicating Science
- \$100,000 for the Susan K. Kershner Endowed Nursing Emergency Relief Fund
- \$100,000 from The Grace and Mercy Foundation for SUNY Korea Study Abroad Scholarships
- \$100,000 for the Long Island Marine Monitoring Network from the William E. and Maude S. Pritchard Charitable Trust

For additional updates on the campaign, please visit stonybrook.edu/campaign.

VI. SPRING ENROLLMENT SNAPSHOT

A total of 24,463 students were registered at the end of Day 5 in spring 2017, 410 more than last year at the same point in the term. Compared to spring 2016, the following changes were observed by area:

- +321 West Campus undergraduates
- -124 Graduate School (West, HSC, Southampton)
- +4 School of Professional Development
- +170 East Campus/HSC
- +29 Southampton location

The final enrollment snapshot is scheduled for February 10.

VII. ALEXANDER ZAMOLODCHIKOV INSTALLED AS INAUGURAL CHEN NING YANG – WEI DENG ENDOWED CHAIR IN PHYSICS AND ASTRONOMY

Dr. Alexander Zamolodchikov became the inaugural Chen Ning Yang – Wei Deng Endowed Chair in Physics and Astronomy on January 6 at an investiture ceremony held in Beijing, China at the global headquarters of Bright Ocean’s Corporation. A pioneer in modern theoretical physics and member of the National Academy of Sciences, Zamolodchikov is known internationally for his contributions to the study of condensed matter physics, conformal field theory and string theory. His impact on the field of physics can be measured by a simple metric: 18,000 – the number of times his published research has been cited, one of the highest in physics to date. The Chair was established through the generosity of **Dr. Wei Deng**, the founder and chairman of Bright Oceans Corporation, a high-tech industrial group in China. Dr. Wei was inspired to honor Chen Ning Yang’s scientific legacy as one of China’s most venerated scientists, recipient of the 1957 Nobel Prize in Physics and the first director of Stony Brook’s Institute of Theoretical Physics, now called the C. N. Yang Institute for Theoretical Physics.

VIII. ESTHER TAKEUCHI NAMED INAUGURAL WILLIAM AND JANE KNAPP CHAIR IN ENERGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Dr. Esther Takeuchi, professor in the College of Arts and Sciences’ Department of Chemistry and the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences’ Department of Materials Science and Chemical Engineering, was recently named the inaugural William and Jane Knapp Chair in Energy and the Environment. Takeuchi plans to use the funds donated by the Knapps to help her team (which is comprised of 50 percent women) attain preliminary results needed for future proposals. Housed in Stony Brook’s Advanced Energy Research and Technology Center within the Center for Mesoscale Transport Properties (*m2m*), she and her team are expecting to find new energy storage alternatives by studying the two most basic products of all energy, work and heat. Takeuchi is credited with more than 150 U.S. patents and developed the battery technology that implanted cardiac defibrillators employ today. She is currently directing a U.S. Department of Energy \$10 million Energy Frontier Research Center award to drive her research in alternative battery systems that aren’t dangerous to the environment, but still boast high-energy, power and lifespan capabilities.

IX. FACULTY/STUDENT/STAFF ACCOLADES

I am pleased and proud to report on the following recent outstanding accomplishments of our faculty, students and staff:

- **Lorne Golub**, DMD, SUNY Distinguished Professor of Oral Biology & Pathology at Stony Brook University School of Dental Medicine, and an innovator in the development of medicines to promote oral health and to treat chronic inflammatory diseases, has been named a Fellow of the National Academy of Inventors (NAI).
- Stony Brook University cell biologists **David Matus**, PhD, and **Benjamin Martin**, PhD, have discovered that cell division and invasion are mutually exclusive behaviors. For this novel finding, the Damon Runyon Cancer Research Foundation has awarded the researchers with the 2017 Damon Runyon-Rachleff Innovation Award and a two-year grant of \$300,000, followed by another renewable grant of \$300,000 for an additional two years to further advance their work.

- **Sonia Harmand**, an associate professor in the Department of Anthropology, has been named one of the 50 most influential French in the world by French Vanity Fair.
- The Suffolk County Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission recognized **Dr. Bonita London**, Department of Psychology, and **Toni Sperzel**, Center for Inclusive Education (CIE), as recipients of the 2017 Public Service Award based on their demonstrated record of dedication to civil rights.
- **Nusnin Akter**, a Materials Science and Chemical Engineering graduate student, won the first place poster award for her research, “2D-Zeolite for the Argon Trap,” at the fifth annual Brookhaven National Lab (BNL) Early Career Researcher Symposium, presented by the Association of Students and Postdocs at BNL on December 13.

X. THREE STONY BROOK-MENTORED STUDENTS NAMED REGENERON FINALISTS

Three of the 40 finalists in the prestigious Regeneron (formerly Intel) competition were mentored by Stony Brook faculty. Stony Brook-mentored finalists in this year’s competition are:

- **Emily Peterson**, Smithtown High School, Port Jefferson, NY. Her project, *Lecithin-Retinol Acyl Transferase in Squamous Cell Carcinoma: The Relationship Between Oncology and Wound Repair*, was mentored by **Mariam Rafailovich**, Distinguished Professor of Materials Science and Chemical Engineering in the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences, and **Marcia Simon**, Professor and Director for Graduate Studies, School of Dental Medicine.
- **Arjun Subramaniam**, The Harker School, San Jose, CA. His project, *CadML: A New, Computational Approach to Optimizing Antibody Affinity for Design of Antibody Therapeutics*, was mentored by **Tom McCarthy**, Assistant Professor of Applied Mathematics and Statistics in the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences.
- **Jessica Tian**, Del Norte High School, San Diego, CA. Her project, *Antibacterial Property of Cellulose Paper Decorated with Ag/TiO₂ Nanocomposites*, was mentored by **Ben Hsiao**, Distinguished Professor of Chemistry in the College of Arts and Sciences.

The students conducted their independent research projects at Stony Brook as part of the Simons Summer Research Program. The finalists will now go to Washington, D.C. from March 9-15 to undergo a rigorous judging process to determine the top 10 winners.

XI. DISCOVERY PRIZE COMPETITION

Four scholars are competing for the 2017 Discovery Prize, a \$200,000 award given to a Stony Brook University faculty member in the STEM disciplines whose research project embraces risk and innovation and embodies the potential of discovery-driven research. The finalists are:

- **Thomas Allison**, Assistant Professor, Department of Chemistry and Department of Physics
- **Gábor Balázs**, Associate Professor, Laufer Center for Physical and Quantitative Biology, and Department of Biomedical Engineering
- **Matthew Reuter**, Assistant Professor, Department of Applied Mathematics and Statistics, and Institute for Advanced Computational Science
- **Neelima Sehgal**, Assistant Professor, Department of Physics and Astronomy

The Discovery Prize was established in 2013 with a generous donation from the Stony Brook Foundation's Board of Trustees as a way to advance pioneering scientific breakthroughs. In keeping with the University's goal of supporting early-career faculty, eligibility is open to faculty members who have a tenure-track assistant professor appointment or are no more than five years beyond tenure and promotion at the associate professor level. The second Stony Brook Discovery Prize Competition will be held on **Thursday, February 9, at 1:30 p.m. in the Charles B. Wang Center Theatre**. The program includes finalists' presentations followed by a reception and announcement of the winner.

XII. DEAN OF STUDENTS

Dr. Timothy Ecklund has left Stony Brook to pursue other opportunities. Dr. Ecklund joined our campus community in 2014 and served as Dean of Students and Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs. During his time at the University he worked diligently to enhance student life and student success. Dean Emeritus, **Dr. Jerrold (Jerry) Stein** will serve as Interim Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students. We are conducting a national search to find a suitable candidate who will fit the needs of our diverse campus and serve our outstanding students.

XIII. CAMPUS DINING BID PROCESS

A request for proposals (RFP) to enhance the current dining program is underway. The purpose of the RFP is to solicit proposals from qualified bidders, including the current food service provider. The bid process is being overseen by the Faculty Student Association (FSA) and managed by a bid selection committee comprised of students, faculty, staff and administrators. Student leaders will be providing feedback to advise FSA about what changes students want most in the student meal plan and dining services program. We expect the contract to be awarded in May, with the transition period starting on June 1.

XIV. HEALTHIER U WELLNESS PORTAL & EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Healthier U Wellness Portal

The Healthier U Wellness Portal, is now live and available to all Stony Brook faculty and staff. This centralized web-based tool will serve as the access point for all of our health and wellness programs, incentive campaigns, educational workshops, and other engagement opportunities. Employees can set up an account and profile, complete a personal health assessment and then be provided a customized experience tailored to their individual health and wellness needs. For more information on this exciting new venture, please visit the Healthier U Wellness Portal [homepage](#).

Employee Assistance Program

The Stony Brook University Employee Assistance Program (EAP), which provides confidential and voluntary assessment, motivation and referral for a variety of personal and work issues, has moved under the Healthier U department. Through Healthier U and its employee lifestyle and condition management initiatives, EAP will have a greater impact and presence for our employees. This realignment will provide our employees with not only greater self-care resources through the portal, but the ability to refer to EAP and their web-based early intervention and prevention

program, Happier U. The synergies between Healthier U and EAP will offer our employees the best means to identify and manage conditions and risk factors as well make sustainable healthy lifestyle changes resulting in an improved state of well-being and quality of life. For more information about this invaluable resource, please visit the EAP [homepage](#).

XV. CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: UNDERGRADUATE RECOGNITION AWARDS

Nominations are being sought for Stony Brook University's Undergraduate Recognition Awards for Academic Excellence and Outstanding Achievement. Awards for Academic Excellence are given for academic accomplishments that go beyond the classroom experience. Awards for Outstanding Achievement are presented for excellence in one of three subcategories: Athletics, Leadership or Community Service. The University's 35th Undergraduate Excellence and Outstanding Achievement Annual Ceremony will be held on April 17. This ceremony provides an opportunity to publicly honor the outstanding accomplishments of our undergraduate students and the faculty and staff who mentor them. The submission deadline is **February 8**. Visit <http://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/duw/awards/undergrecog.html> for guidelines and eligibility criteria.

XVI. PRESIDENTIAL MINI-GRANTS FOR DEPARTMENTAL DIVERSITY INITIATIVE

The President's Office is currently accepting proposals for the **Presidential Mini-Grants for Departmental Diversity Initiatives through Friday, February 24**. Drawing on a total pool of \$30,000, the award amount granted will be determined by the number of grants selected and approved for funding. Each Mini-Grant recipient will be recognized at the Annual Awards Dinner. The application form, proposal guidelines and a list of previous winning proposals, are available at <http://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/pres/minigrants/index.html>.

XVII. UPCOMING EVENTS

Black History Month Celebration

The Office of Multicultural Affairs and the Black History Month Committee kicked off the University's annual Black History Month celebration with a wonderful opening ceremony on February 1. I had the pleasure of attending this event, which featured **Sulma Arzu-Brown**, author of *Bad Hair Does Not Exist/Malo Pelo No Existe!*. This event marked the beginning of a series of activities that will take place throughout the month. For a full listing of events and activities, visit: <http://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/bhm/>.

New Residence Halls & East Side Dining Ribbon Cutting

A ribbon cutting ceremony is set for **Wednesday, February 22 at 1:00 p.m.** for the new Cesar Chavez and Harriet Tubman Residence Halls and East Side Dining facility. The event will include a reception, tours and student performances.

XVIII. RECENT EVENTS

40 Under Forty

Stony Brook honored the members of its third annual *40 Under Forty* class at a celebration on January 31 at THREE SIXTY⁹ in New York City. Selected from a diverse nominee pool of Stony Brook graduates, the honorees represent the University's most creative and bold young professionals in science, technology, engineering and medicine, as well as business, sports and the arts, including researchers and tech innovators, to health care advocates and civic heroes.

Winter Commencement

Stony Brook celebrated its 19th Winter Commencement on Thursday, December 22 at the Island Federal Credit Union Arena. The ceremony was held to confer bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees, as well as certificates, for summer 2016 and fall 2016 graduates. A total of 1,575 degrees were conferred, including: 835 Bachelor Degrees, 120 Doctoral Degrees, 620 Master Degrees, and 55 Certificates.

XIX. ATHLETICS UPDATE¹

Fall Wrap-Up

- **Volleyball:** **Kristin Belzung** joins the Seawolves as the new head coach of the women's volleyball team. Belzung most recently completed her fourth season with the University of Wyoming volleyball program. During her time with the Cowgirls, Belzung helped the squad average just over 21 wins per season. Before starting her coaching career, Belzung was a four-year standout setter at the University of Northern Iowa.

Winter Sports

- **Men's Basketball:** Coach **Jeff Boals** and the men's basketball team have an overall record of 11-10 and a 6-2 record in the America East – they are currently in 2nd place in the conference. With eight conference matches to go, the team is fighting to repeat as America East champions. Stony Brook Athletics will retire the No. 20 jersey of **Jameel Warney**, a three-time America East Player of the Year and the most decorated player in Seawolves basketball history. Warney will be honored in a halftime ceremony at Island Federal Credit Union Arena on Saturday, February 18 at 7 p.m.
- **Women's Basketball:** The team begins the second half of America East play when it hosts New Hampshire on February 1 at the Island Federal Credit Union Arena. In their recent conference win over UMass Lowell, senior **Kori Bayne-Walker** (Rochester, N.Y.) broke the Stony Brook women's basketball career assists record. The record was broken with her 418th career assist. With 8 conference games still to be played, Kori will continue to add to that record. She enters the team's next game with 435 career assists.

¹ As of January 31

- **Track & Field:** The Stony Brook men's and women's track and field teams recently competed at the John Thomas Terrier Classic, hosted by Boston University, and both teams had quality performances. The Seawolves will compete at the Metropolitan Championships in Staten Island, New York on February 3.

Spring Sports Preview

- **Women's Lacrosse:** The team opens 2017 with its best-ever preseason rankings in two national polls, as the Seawolves are No. 6 in the IWLCA coaches poll and No. 5 in the *Inside Lacrosse/Cascade* media poll. Along with the national rankings, the Seawolves were unanimously picked to win the America East title this year.
- **Men's Lacrosse:** Senior **Jeff Reh** (Sound Beach, N.Y.) was named preseason All-American in the *Inside Lacrosse Face-Off Yearbook* issue. Reh enters his final season at Stony Brook with 14 goals and 10 assists in 45 games played. Stony Brook was ranked No. 13 in the USILA coaches' poll and No. 15 in the *Inside Lacrosse* poll at the end of the regular season, and peaked as high as No. 8 during the season. The Seawolves open the 2017 campaign on February 14 at Sacred Heart.

General News

- **Swimming & Diving:** The Department of Athletics has announced the return of the women's swimming and diving program for the 2017-18 academic year. Construction of the new pool has been completed and is pending state and local inspections. The Department is conducting a search for a new head coach and it is anticipated that this person will come on board later this spring.