



MEMORANDUM

TO: University Senate

FROM: Samuel L. Stanley Jr., M.D.
President

DATE: August 29, 2016

SUBJECT: President's Report

I. MOUNT SINAI AND STONY BROOK ANNOUNCE AFFILIATION

Stony Brook Medicine and the Mount Sinai Health System have entered into an affiliation agreement that includes collaboration on research, academic programs and clinical care initiatives – effective immediately. The institutions launched the partnership to heighten academic and research synergies, and to promote discovery, provide expanded clinical trials for both institutions, and achieve breakthroughs in understanding and treating disease.

The Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai and Stony Brook University will collaborate to develop a wide range of research programs in fields, including: biomedical engineering and computer science; drug discovery and medicinal chemistry sciences; neuroscience, neurology and psychiatry; basic biology and novel therapeutics; and public health and health systems. The alliance will capitalize on Stony Brook's expertise in mathematics, high-performance computing, imaging, and the physical and chemical sciences, and Mount Sinai's strengths in biomedical and clinical research, and health policy and outcomes.

Through the partnership, the schools will develop joint graduate and medical educational programs in all areas, leveraging the strength of existing master's and doctoral programs at each institution. Students will have the opportunity to take classes on both campuses, allowing them to learn new techniques and expand their learning capacity. Mount Sinai and Stony Brook will also build summer programs for undergraduate, graduate, and postgraduate students. In addition, Mount Sinai and Stony Brook will invest a combined \$500,000 to launch competitive and unique pilot programs, with the intent to receive collaborative external funding. Projects will be determined and overseen by a committee composed of three representatives from each institution.

II. SENIOR LEADERSHIP ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Michael A. Bernstein Named Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

It is my pleasure to announce that **Dr. Michael A. Bernstein**, the John Christie Barr Professor of History, Professor of Economics and Provost of Tulane University from 2007 through June 2016, will join Stony Brook University as our new Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic

Affairs on October 31, 2016. Dr. Bernstein received his Ph.D, M.Phil., M.A., and B.A., respectively, in Economics at Yale University. His research interests include economic history, macroeconomic theory, and history of economic thought. He succeeds **Dr. Dennis N. Assanis**, who resigned as Provost on June 30 to take the helm as President of the University of Delaware.

As the chief academic officer, Dr. Bernstein will be responsible for oversight of the academic mission of west campus, providing direct supervision for all academic units, support services and operations, and coordinating all academic programs. The deans and directors of the colleges, schools, libraries, centers and institutes, other than those in the Health Sciences Center, report to the Provost. The Provost works closely with the Senior Vice President of the Health Sciences Center/Dean of the Medical School and the Vice President for Research with regard to academic and research issues that concern the University as a whole.

Prior to becoming the Chief Academic Officer at Tulane, Dr. Bernstein was at the University of California at San Diego (UCSD), where he served as the Dean of Arts and Humanities and as a Professor of History, a department which he chaired for six years. He also served as Chair of the Academic Senate of his home campus while at UCSD, and participated in the work of the UCSD Chancellor's Diversity Council, the Advisory Board of the UCSD Women's Center, the Advisory Committee of the UCSD Office of Sexual Harassment Prevention and Policy, and on the Chancellor's Committee on the Status of Women.

Under Dr. Bernstein's leadership as Provost at Tulane both the STEM disciplines and the liberal arts flourished, benefiting from his keen ability to understand and help meet the distinct needs of the whole research university. His experience at Tulane and his leadership positions at UCSD, together with his many other accomplishments, lends a unique and diverse perspective. I am looking forward to the contributions and leadership he will offer to Stony Brook.

Dr. Bernstein's selection as Provost was made following a national search, with the participation of a dedicated search committee, to whom I extend my gratitude. I also thank the co-chairs **David Ferguson**, Distinguished Service Professor and Chair of Technology and Society, and **Nancy Tomes**, Distinguished Professor of History, for their commitment. I would also like to thank **Chuck Taber** for his dedication and service as the interim Provost as we conducted the search and now as we await Dr. Bernstein's arrival in October.

Dr. Rich Reeder Named Interim Vice President for Research

As you may know, **Dr. David O. Conover** accepted a position at the University of Oregon as Vice President for Research and Innovation. **Dr. Richard Reeder**, Associate Vice President for Brookhaven Affairs, assumed the additional roles of interim Vice President for Research and interim Operations Manager for the Research Foundation at Stony Brook – effective July 5.

Dr. Larry Swanson Named Interim Dean of the School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences

Dr. Minghua Zhang stepped down from his role as Dean of Stony Brook University's School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences (SoMAS) this summer. **Dr. Larry Swanson**, Director of the Waste Reduction and Management Institute and Associate Dean of SoMAS, has agreed to serve as interim Dean – effective July 1. The search for the next Dean of SoMAS is currently underway. Additional information about the position is available [here](#).

III. FUNDING IN KEY AREAS

I sent a message to all faculty and staff regarding funding in key areas on July 15. In an effort to make sure you have received this information, I am providing this message below:

The New York State budget for 2016-17 did not include a continuation of the transformative SUNY 2020 initiative and froze in-state undergraduate tuition for this year. This means that investments in programs and services cannot be at the same levels as they have been over the previous five years. We were, however, given authority to increase non-resident tuition and the College Fee, which is TAP eligible. These measures provide us the ability to develop a budget for 2016-17 that minimizes the negative impact, invests in several of our key initiatives, and helps us cover the cost of mandatory items such as contractual salary increases. We will also be able to invest in strategic capital improvements using money saved through energy saving projects.

I am pleased to announce the following investments. Several of these commitments grew out of my conversations with academic departments over the course of the last academic year. Faculty and staff in departments across the campus noted the importance of providing additional funding for our graduate students and our labs, as well as the importance of implementing our Plan for Equity, Inclusion and Diversity. Here is a breakdown of the areas where we will be investing this year:

- Increase basic stipend for graduate students by \$1,500
- Lab upgrades and improvements
- \$750K for University diversity initiatives
- DoIT support
- Increase student financial aid
- Fund contractual salary increases for 2016-17

While we were able to forestall a major budget crisis, we must all be aware of the potential for significant budgetary challenges in the years to come:

- All tuition and fee categories may remain constant in future years;
- Recent history suggests that the State will not fund contractual salary increases negotiated between NYS and the various public sector unions; and
- Maintenance of Effort between NYS and SUNY was discontinued when SUNY 2020 expired, therefore, SUNY's budget is no longer protected from legislative budget reductions.

Given these factors it is clear that we need to plan for a difficult budget environment. Importantly, all hiring decisions should be made with a clear understanding of the difficult budget choices we are likely to face over the next several years. Prudent budget making requires looking at all measures that will help to control costs and increase revenues. We will look to you and/or others from your areas to help identify new revenue enhancing and cost-control opportunities, and to find ways to limit existing spending.

IV. FUNDRAISING UPDATE

Donors continued to provide generous support during Fiscal Year 2016. As of June 30, 2016, University Advancement secured more than \$71.2 million in new gifts and pledges in support of the Campaign for Stony Brook, including:

- \$33.5 million for Faculty and Academic Support
- \$15.1 million for Campus Life and Facilities
- \$15.0 million for Research
- \$5.4 million for Student Financial Aid
- \$2.2 million for Funds for Excellence (The Annual Fund)

In all since 2011, the Campaign has secured more than \$468 million in gifts and pledges toward our ambitious \$600 million goal – the largest campaign in SUNY history. We are proud of our progress to date and are prepared for the hard work ahead to raise an additional \$132 million in less than 23 months. Recent notable gifts include:

- \$2.5 million for the Minghua Zhang Early Career Faculty Innovation Fund and the Shinnecock Bay Restoration Program
- \$500,000 for the Stony Brook Children’s Hospital Building Fund
- \$200,000 for the Long Island Marine Monitoring Network
- \$120,000 for the Overseas Partnership Program in News Literacy
- \$100,000 for the Institute for Ocean Conservation Science (IOCS)
- \$100,000 for the Brevet Capital Management Fund for the College of Business Investment Club

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

V. STONY BROOK MANHATTAN AND SOUTHAMPTON UPDATES

Given a 25% increase in lease costs and declining enrollment numbers at the Stony Brook Manhattan location, the lease will not be extended upon its expiration at the end of February 2017. The School of Social Welfare and the Master of Fine Arts (MFA) program are both in the process of securing space for their programs in Manhattan through partnerships with other state or SUNY institutions.

Enrollment at Stony Brook Southampton has grown considerably. Almost 400 students are taking classes at Southampton in our MFA, Marine Sciences and Health Technology Management programs. Associated tuition revenues of almost \$5 million dollars were brought in this year – which is up from approximately \$600,000 in 2011. This growth helped us successfully lobby NYS for a re-appropriation of \$7.5 million dollars in capital improvement projects for the campus.

VI. THE OFFICE OF INSTITUTIONAL DIVERSITY AND EQUITY

In an effort to better represent the areas of service we provide, the Office of Diversity and Affirmative Action (ODAA) is now named the Office of Institutional Diversity and Equity

(OIDE). OIDE will continue to operate in the same capacity as ODAA, providing support and services in the areas of Title IX, Equity and Inclusion, and Diversity. Its office location, phone and fax numbers will remain the same. I am also pleased to announce that the Director of OIDE and Title IX Coordinator, **Marjolie Leonard**, will assume the role of Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Coordinator. As ADA Coordinator, Marjolie will work with OIDE to ensure institutional compliance with ADA provisions and provide education, training and guidance on policies and procedures related to the ADA.

Additionally, OIDE has partnered with West Campus Human Resource Services, University Hospital Human Resources, Long Island State Veterans Home Human Resources, and the Office of Student Affairs to address issues relating to disabilities and accommodations. The relevant Human Resource Services office will now address faculty and staff accommodation requests, while Disability Support Services will continue to provide support and resources to students. For more information about OIDE, please visit: stonybrook.edu/oide.

VII. DIVERSITY PLAN UPDATE

In mid-May, we rolled out our “Plan for Equity, Inclusion and Diversity,” which articulates specific goals and tactics for ensuring an inclusive community for all, regardless of ethnicity, age, gender, religion, ability, veteran status, socioeconomic level, and sexual orientation. The implementation steering committee and the working group chairs met over the summer to review employment, enrollment and campus climate data as a means of providing a framework for measuring progress. Additionally, the working groups have started to build their memberships and are developing strategies and priorities that will enable us to reach the key goals articulated in the Plan. We will also begin working this semester with all academic and administrative areas on building cultural competencies and eliminating hidden biases in the workplace and the classroom. Updates on Plan implementation will be provided on a regular basis via the web and twice yearly forums. For more details, visit: <http://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/diversityplan/>.

VIII. UNIVERSITY ACCOLADES

Stony Brook Ranked in Top 1 Percent Among Universities Worldwide

According to the Center for World University Rankings (CWUR), Stony Brook University is among the top 1 percent in the world, ranking #154 among more than 25,000 degree-granting institutions of higher education worldwide. CWUR is the largest academic ranking of global universities. In addition to providing consultation for governments and universities, CWUR publishes the only global university ranking that measures quality of education and training of students, as well as the prestige of the faculty members and the quality of their research without relying on surveys and university data submissions.

Stony Brook Makes Forbes Top 100 Best Value List

Stony Brook University is in the Top 100 of Forbes Best Value Schools 2016 – ranked at #82. The ranking is based on tuition costs, school quality, graduation success and post-graduate earnings. According to Forbes, “This is our newly reimagined Best Value Colleges ranking, an analysis of the brainiest research universities and leading liberal arts schools, both public and private, that are well worth the investment.”

Stony Brook Listed as Fiske “Best Buy” School

Stony Brook University’s academic excellence and affordability have been recognized by Fiske Guide to Colleges 2017, which deems SBU one of the “academic leaders in the SUNY system.” Stony Brook is among 21 public and 26 private colleges and universities in the U.S., Canada and the UK selected for inclusion in the guide. The university is recognized for a broad range of qualities, including: academics, diversity, state-of-the-art facilities, quality of student life on campus, extracurricular activities, food, housing, location and more.

Stony Brook Ranked 7th Most Diverse Out of Top 100 Universities

Stony Brook University has placed 7th on a nationwide list of the most diverse campuses in the country. BestColleges.com, an online resource analyzing trends in higher education, used data from the Department of Education in partnership with data studio Priceconomics to rank top colleges and universities according to racial and ethnic diversity. The level of diversity was classified using the Herfindahl–Hirschman Index, a calculation that measures diversity in a variety of settings.

IX. KATY SIEGEL INSTALLED AS STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY THAW ENDOWED CHAIR IN MODERN AMERICAN ART

Highlighting Stony Brook University’s commitment to becoming a leader in the study of modern American art, **Katy Siegel, Ph.D.**, was formally installed as the inaugural holder of the Eugene V. and Clare E. Thaw Endowed Chair in Modern American Art at The Century Association in New York City on May 25. Established in 2015 and made possible through the generosity of the Thaw Charitable Trust and a matching contribution from the Simons Foundation, the Thaw Chair and Siegel’s appointment underscores Stony Brook’s fostering of education in modern American art and ties the University closer to the Pollock-Krasner House and Study Center — deeded to the Stony Brook Foundation in 1987 under the guidance of Eugene Thaw, one of the world’s most esteemed and successful private art dealers and trusted friend and adviser to Lee Krasner.

X. DISCOVERY PRIZE 2016: CALL FOR PROPOSALS

In keeping with our goal of supporting early-career faculty, eligibility is open to faculty members who, at the time of application, have a tenure-track Assistant Professor appointment or are no more than five years beyond tenure and promotion at the Associate Professor level. The proposed work must be basic research that is discovery driven and creates new knowledge. Research that is primarily translational in nature (i.e., seeks to apply existing knowledge) or that has been funded in the past is not eligible. Concept Papers are due by **September 6**. For more information, visit: <http://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/discoveryprize/apply.html>.

XI. FACULTY & STUDENT ACCOLADES

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

- **Meave Leakey** has received the 2016 Hubbard Medal, National Geographic's oldest and most prestigious honor, presented for lifetime achievements in areas of scientific research, explorations, and conservation.
- **Suparna Rajaram**, a professor of Psychology and former Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs in the College of Arts and Sciences at Stony Brook University, was chosen President-elect of the Association for Psychological Science (APS). She will succeed Susan Goldin-Meadow from the University of Chicago as APS President in May 2017.
- In recognition of his outstanding achievements in science, The American Chemical Society (ACS) has named Stony Brook University Professor **Carlos Simmerling** to the 2016 class of ACS Fellows. He joins 57 distinguished scientists who have demonstrated outstanding accomplishments in chemistry and have made important contributions to the ACS.
- **Benjamin Hsiao** has been selected as a member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS)-Lemelson 2016-17 Class of Invention Ambassadors.
- **Matthew D. Lerner**, an assistant professor in the Department of Psychology at Stony Brook University, received a \$2.3million Biobehavioral Research Award for Innovative New Scientists (BRAINS) from the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) for his research project, "Optimizing Prediction of Social Deficits in Autism Spectrum Disorders."
- **Aruna Balasubramanian**, an Assistant Professor in the Department of Computer Science at Stony Brook, has been awarded a National Science Foundation grant for her research, "CRII: NeTS: Making Sense of Mobile Web Page Performance."
- **Minghua Zhang**, Professor in the School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences (SoMAS), has been appointed Editor in Chief of the prestigious academic journal *JGR-Atmospheres*.
- **Joanna Kiryluk**, an Assistant Professor in the Department of Physics and Astronomy at Stony Brook University, has received a CAREER award from the National Science Foundation to support her research, "CAREER: Experimental Particle Astrophysics with High Energy Neutrinos in IceCube."
- **Thomas K. Allison** has been awarded a U.S. Department of Energy Office of Science Early Career Award for his work on developing new light sources and techniques to follow the motions of molecular systems in real-time.
- **Roger Rosenblatt**, Professor in the Southampton MFA program and a Stony Brook University Distinguished Professor of English and Writing, has been awarded the President's Medal by the Chautauqua Institution.
- **M. Ete Chan**, an Assistant Professor in the Department of Biomedical Engineering (BME) at Stony Brook University, received a SUNY Innovative Instruction Technology Grant (IITG) for her research, "Lab-in-a-Cube Hands-on Lab Learning with an Automatic Feedback." IITG funds campus innovations and initiatives in instructional technology that have the strongest potential to be replicated across all SUNY campuses.
- Six Stony Brook Faculty members have been appointed to the SUNY Distinguished Ranks. Four faculty – **William C. Chittick**, Department of Asian and Asian American Studies; **Michael Aaron Frohman**, Chair of the Department of Pharmacological Sciences; **Lorna W. Role**, Department of Neurobiology and Behavior; and **Kathleen Wilson**, Department of History – received the rank of Distinguished Professor. Two faculty – **Peter Richards Brink**, Department of Physiology and Biophysics; and **Laura**

J. Fochtmann, Department of Psychiatry – received the Distinguished Service Professor ranking.

- Soprano **Rachel Schutz** '07 a Doctor of Musical Arts (DMA) student in the College of Arts & Sciences at Stony Brook University and critically acclaimed performing artist, won first place at the National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS) Artist Awards Competition finals.
- Two Stony Brook University students earned prestigious Fulbright Grants for 2016-17 and another student who received a grant for 2015-16 has been asked to renew her English Teaching Assistantship (ETA). **Sumaira Mian** '16, who was a dual major in biology and religious studies, accepted the ETA in Turkey. **Ross Medico** '13, who majored in political science and international relations, will head to Taiwan in the fall after accepting an ETA there. **Michelle Chiarappa** '15, who was a linguistics major, was invited to spend a second year in Turkey based on her exemplary service.
- Stony Brook University Ph.D student **James Scheuermann** won first place in the John R. Cameron Young Investigators Competition held by the American Association of Physicists in Medicine (AAPM). The award was presented at the 58th annual AAPM meeting in Washington, DC, July 31 through August 4. The competition is held each year for young investigators, with the top projects presented in a special symposium at the annual meeting.
- **Mani Kuntal Sen**, a Materials Science and Chemical Engineering Ph.D student from Dr. Tad Koga's group won the second place poster award at the "14th International Conference on Surface X-ray and Neutron Scattering (SXNS-14)," held from July 10-14 at Stony Brook University. The conference was co-sponsored by SBU and Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL).

XII. FREEDOM SCHOOL 2016

The Stony Brook Freedom School completed its fourth year of operation this summer. The Freedom School is an academic enrichment program sponsored by the University in conjunction with Marion Wright Edelman's Children's Defense Fund. Our Freedom School is one of two hundred nationally, is the first on Long Island and is the only one operated on a university campus. The program served fifty scholars (rising sixth graders) whose families live below the federal poverty level. Stony Brook students, staff, and administrators – including **Charlie Robbins** and **Cheryl Hamilton** – dedicated great effort to help make this program a success yet again.

XIII. RECENT EVENTS

41st Southampton Writers Conference Highlights Another Arts Summer

The Southampton Writers Conference took place from July 6-17 and is at the heart of Stony Brook Southampton's summer slate – which includes the Southampton Theatre Conference and the five-day Children's Literature Conference (July 13-17), as well as a Master Class in Acting for Directors (July 6-10) taught by Academy Award-winning actor **Mercedes Ruehl**. One of the highlights of the Writers Conference is the Master Class taught by **Rosenblatt**, a Stony Brook University Distinguished Professor of English and Writing. The class included Rosenblatt interviewing a master craftsperson. This year he spoke with **Alan Alda**, **Mark Doty**, **Espada**, **Wolitzer** and **Lauren Groff**, about imagination and other aspects of writing.

XIV. UPCOMING EVENTS

Executive Director of UN Women to Discuss Gender Equality

Stony Brook University welcomes **Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka**, Executive Director of UN Women and Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations, for a Presidential Lecture on **Monday, September 12, at the Staller Center for the Arts at 4 pm**. Following the lecture, I will have a discussion with Ms. Mlambo-Ngcuka about achieving gender equality and defeating gender-based discrimination and violence on college campuses and across the globe. Students, faculty and staff may submit questions in advance that the speaker will answer as time permits – visit stonybrook.edu/heforshe for details.

State of the University and Library Renovation Ribbon Cutting and Reception

The annual State of the University presentation will take place in the Staller Center on **September 28th at 1:00**. It will be followed by a reception and ribbon-cutting celebration to open the newly renovated Central Reading Room and North Reading Room in the Melville Library. All are invited.

Save the Date: Wolfstock 2016

Wolfstock 2016 will take place on **Saturday, October 15**. The annual homecoming tradition has something for everyone, including a family-friendly barbecue, special events for students, alumni and friends – and, of course, the big game in LaValle Stadium. For more information, visit: <http://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/wolfstock/>.

XV. ATHLETICS

Team Updates

- **Football:** The team's home opener is set for Thursday, September 1 against #21 ranked North Dakota. Two former Stony Brook football players are currently in training camps with NFL teams. After being named to the NFL's All-Rookie Team in 2015, **Will Tye** (Middletown, Conn.) is listed as the second string tight end for the New York Giants in his second professional season. The Baltimore Ravens signed **Victor Ochi** (Valley Stream, NY), as an undrafted free agent this summer. He is vying for a position on the final roster, and is listed fourth string on the depth chart for defensive line positions.
- **Women's Soccer:** The team enters the 2016 season under the leadership of new head coach **Brendan Faherty**. The team's season opened with two games against Bryant University and Sacred Heart University. After two tough overtime battles, the Seawolves fell to Bryant but earned a 1-1 draw with Sacred Heart. The team will travel north to take on ACC powerhouse Boston College on Thursday, August 25.
- **Men's Soccer, Volleyball and Cross Country:** The teams are hard at work preparing for their seasons to kick off. Men's soccer returns 15 letter winners from the 2015 team and will take on

local rival Hofstra University on Friday, August 26. With a young roster (which includes 5 newcomers) the Volleyball team will travel to Orlando, Florida to play in the UCF Invitational on August 26 & 27. Our men's and women's cross country teams will have their first home meet on September 3.

- **Men's Basketball:** Former Stony Brook standout player **Jameel Warney** (Plainfield, NJ) has taken his game to the professional ranks. As an undrafted free agent, Warney was signed by the Dallas Mavericks and performed extremely well in the Las Vegas NBA Summer League. He led his team in field goal percentage, offensive rebounds and blocks per game – despite averaging only 16.5 minutes per game in six contests. As a result of his impressive performance, Warney earned an invitation to training camp and will look to earn a spot on the Mavericks NBA roster.
- **Women's Basketball:** In July, incoming freshman **Giolibeth Perez** (Camuy, Puerto Rico) was selected to represent Team Puerto Rico at the FIBA Americas U18 Women's Championship in Valdivia, Chile. Perez led Puerto Rico to a 4th place finish, averaging 10.8 ppg, 5.4 apg and 4.8 rpg. She was third on the team in scoring and rebounding and first in assists. Puerto Rico finished 2-3. Prior to Stony Brook, Perez was a two-time first team all-county point guard for Ferguson High School, one of the top high school teams in the state of Florida. As a senior, Perez was named the Miami-Dade County Player of the Year, leading the Falcons in scoring and assists en route to an appearance in the Class 8A state semifinals.