



Stony Brook University



Stony Brook Medicine

TO: University Senate
FROM: William Wertheim, MD, MBA
Executive Vice President for Stony Brook Medicine
DATE: April 6, 2026
SUBJECT: SBM EVP Report

ACADEMIC REPORT

Renaissance School of Medicine Hosts Annual Women in Medicine & Science Research Day and Inaugural Women's Health Research Conference

March marked both Women's History Month and the Renaissance School of Medicine's 20th Annual Women in Medicine & Science Research Day. Organized by the RSOM's Office of Faculty Affairs and the Group for Women in Medicine and Science, the event continued a proud two-decade tradition of elevating scholarship, mentorship and leadership while highlighting the achievements of women across medical training, healthcare, and research—and fostering dialogue around ongoing challenges. The program featured engaging oral presentations and a record 171 abstract submissions and was further distinguished by a keynote address from Dr. Lindsey A. Criswell of the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases (NIAMS). Dr. Criswell also joined RSOM faculty and SBU President Andrea Goldsmith for engaging panel discussion, "Advocating Toward Leadership."

Separately, nearly 300 attendees joined the Inaugural Stony Brook Women's Health Research Conference on March 25, bringing together faculty, trainees, and interdisciplinary researchers for a full day of scholarly exchange focused on advancing women's health across the lifespan. The program featured a morning keynote by Carolyn M. Mazure, Norma Weinberg Spungen and Joan Lebson Bildner Professor Emeritus in Women's Health Research and Professor Emeritus of Psychiatry and Psychology at the Yale School of Medicine, who discussed the past, present, and future of women's health research. The afternoon keynote, delivered by Maricedes Acosta-Martinez, Assistant Professor in the RSOM's Department of Physiology and Biophysics, addressed menopause as a critical opportunity for cognitive health. The conference also included selected oral presentations, poster and art sessions, and a moderated panel on midlife women's health research, covering topics from reproductive biology and menopause to mental health, oncology, and artificial intelligence in screening.

School of Dental Medicine Holds Annual Research Symposium

Advancing innovation and expanding the frontiers of dental science, the School of Dental Medicine (SDM) held its annual Research Symposium on March 3 at SBU's Student Activities Center. A record 54 presenters — including undergraduates, dental students, residents, as well as master's and PhD candidates — shared original research spanning a wide range of disciplines. Eight participants were recognized with awards for

excellence. Among them was second-year dental student Linda Cesark, recipient of the American Association of Dental, Oral and Craniofacial Research (AADOCR)/Dentsply Sirona Student Research Award for her project, Data Collection Accuracy Based on Artificial Intelligence in Academia. The honor includes support from Dentsply Sirona to present her work at the organization's 56th annual meeting next year in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

RSOM Celebrates Successful Match Day

The RSOM celebrated an outstanding 2026 Match Day on March 20 in the Bauman Center for Leadership and Service, with 135 graduating students opening their envelopes to discover their residency placements. Achieving an impressive 96% match rate, the students matched to residency programs in 19 states, with nearly two-thirds (64%) staying in New York State and 22% continuing their training at SBM. Notably, 33% of students matched in primary care specialties, helping to address a critical community need.

It was also a remarkable match for residency programs. All 162 positions offered in the categorical residency programs at SBUH, Stony Brook Children's Hospital, SBSH and SBELIH were filled—a 100% fill rate that is a testament to the quality of our programs and the commitment of our faculty, staff and learners to graduate medical education.

Program in Public Health and Center for Interprofessional Innovation Host BIRTH Initiative

The Building Interprofessional Resources for Transforming Health (BIRTH) Initiative wrapped up its fourth and final session, ending a meaningful journey of collaboration, learning, and impact. Led by the Center for Interprofessional Innovation and the Program in Public Health, and supported by a Presidential Mini-Grant, this initiative united students, faculty, and healthcare providers across disciplines with a shared goal: advancing equity in maternal and child health. Together, participants deepened their understanding of lived experiences surrounding pregnancy, conception, loss, labor, and healing—while exploring trauma-informed, team-based approaches to care that put compassion and equity at the center.

Family Medicine Residency Program Receives ACGME Accreditation

The SBM/Southampton Hospital Family Medicine Residency Program has received Continued Accreditation from the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME), effective January 28, 2026. The designation reflects the program's impressive performance and sustained quality in education and clinical training. Congratulations to Program Director Lovedhi Aggarwal, MD, and the residency leadership team in the Department of Family, Population & Preventive Medicine for their direction and commitment to resident education and patient care. This outcome also recognizes the contributions of the program's faculty, staff, and residents, and reinforces the institution's commitment to training the next generation of family medicine physicians.

Lisa Strano-Paul Inducted into Fellows of the American Geriatrics Society

Dr. Lisa Strano-Paul, Professor of Medicine and Associate Dean for Clinical Education, has been inducted into the latest class of Fellows of the American Geriatrics Society (AGS), a prestigious recognition awarded annually to members who demonstrate outstanding contributions to education, scholarship, public

service, and leadership in geriatric medicine. Dr. Strano-Paul's induction into the AGS Fellowship highlights a career defined by innovation in medical education, advancement of professional identity formation, and mentorship of future physicians. As a practicing geriatrician for over three decades and chair of the AGS Education Committee, she has championed integrating geriatrics into core medical training, emphasizing the humanism, professionalism, and resilience essential to compassionate, person-centered care.

Jose Torres Wins American Urological Association New York Section Chief Resident Debate

Jose Torres, Chief Resident in the Department of Urology at the Renaissance School of Medicine, won the American Urological Association New York Section Chief Resident Debate, held March 11 at the New York Academy of Medicine. Founded around 1988 and named in honor of Dr. Michael Droller, the competition brings together chief residents from every program within the NY Section, each delivering a short presentation and rebuttal on clinically complex urological topics, with winners chosen by audience acclamation. Dr. Torres earned the recognition through a blend of scientific rigor, clinical argument, and the wit and humor that distinguish this event as a highlight of the section's annual membership dinner. His victory also marks the seventh consecutive year that a Stony Brook Urology resident has taken top honors, a notable measure of the program's sustained excellence in graduate medical education.

Meredith Slopen to be Featured In NYC Open Data Week Panel and Podcast

Meredith Slopen, assistant professor in the School of Social Welfare, will participate in the [New York City Open Data Week x Barnard CSC](#) on March 23, from 2:00–3:30 PM. Dr. Slopen initiated a project that created a public dataset on the work and leave experiences of recent NYC parents. A team at Barnard has recently used this dataset to develop new projects and has invited Dr. Slopen to join a podcast and panel discussion exploring what NYC open data can reveal about family policy. The event is open to the public in a hybrid format; attend in person or via Zoom.

Elinor Schoenfeld Receives Distinguished Jacobs School Alumni Award

Dr. Elinor Schoenfeld, Research Professor, Associate Vice Chair of Research, and Deputy Division Head of Epidemiology and Biostatistics in the Renaissance School of Medicine's Department of Family, Population & Preventive Medicine, has been named a recipient of the Distinguished Jacobs School Alumni Award from the Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences at the University at Buffalo. This annual honor recognizes alumni who have achieved national or international distinction and made significant contributions to medicine, biomedical science, or related fields. Dr. Schoenfeld will be recognized this June during the Jacobs School's Reunion Weekend in Buffalo, New York.

School of Nursing Welcomes New Faculty and Staff

The School of Nursing is pleased to announce new faculty and staff appointments. These individuals bring vital expertise and experience that will help us provide the highest-quality education to our students.

- Colleen Walsh-Irwin, a licensed nurse practitioner specializing in adult health, will serve as clinical assistant professor and DNP program director. A triple alumna of Stony Brook, Dr. Walsh-Irwin became an adjunct professor at the SON after she completed her DNP in 2014.

- An accomplished researcher across a wide range of fields, Dr. Walsh-Irwin has long held various Veterans Affairs (VA) roles and, most recently, served as the associate director of evidence-based practice in the Office of Nursing Services at the VA central office in Washington, D.C.
- Board-certified psychiatric-mental health nurse practitioner Krystal Plummer has been appointed psych-mental health program director and clinical instructor for graduate studies and advanced practice nursing. A proud SBU alumna, she is dedicated to advancing evidence-based mental health education and mentoring future nurse practitioners. Her extensive clinical expertise spans private practice and specialized outpatient care for child, adolescent, and geriatric populations.
- Kimberly Swan joins as simulation coordinator and clinical instructor for simulation education. A dual-degree alumna of the School of Nursing, she has a diverse clinical background, including intensive care and dialysis, and is committed to fostering student development and clinical scholarship. She previously served as adjunct clinical and laboratory faculty at the SON.
- Christine Pfundstein is the newest clinical instructor in the Department of Undergraduate Studies. A board-certified pediatric nurse practitioner specializing in pediatrics, obstetrics, and lactation, she is an alumna of SBU and leverages over 15 years of clinical experience — including a decade working in maternal-child health at SBM.
- Eva Liang will support the Office of Research and Innovation as a research instructor. She specializes in optimizing research infrastructure, developing pre- and post-award policies, and providing technical support for faculty and doctoral students in data management and analysis. A Stony Brook alumna, she brings a wealth of experience in managing large-scale behavioral intervention clinical trials and qualitative research projects from previous roles at New York University and the City University of New York.

School of Health Professions Recognizes Outstanding Alumni

School of Health Professions faculty and staff hosted the Outstanding Alumni Awards on March 24. The evening included heartfelt and inspiring speeches, as well as a reception in the Galleria. Alumni recipients included:

Jules Maynard '16 (AHI)
 Claudia Williams '08 (HS)
 Rhys Filmer '98 (OT)
 Jaci Smith '12 (AT)
 Lyncan Williams '02 (PA)
 Stephen D'Amico '22 (SLP)
 Ken O'Korn '97 (RC)
 Kiera Deller '17 (CLS)
 Edder Peralta '05 (HS)

Kevin Murgas Receives College of American Pathologists Distinguished Medical Student Award

Congratulations to Kevin Murgas, a Medical Scientist Training Program (MSTP) student at the RSOM, on being selected as a recipient of the College of American Pathologists (CAP) Distinguished Medical Student Award. This honor recognizes medical students who demonstrate outstanding achievement, aptitude and

interest in pathology, as well as initiative in engaging with the field. Dr. Murgas, who earned his BSE from Duke University and his PhD in Biomedical Informatics from Stony Brook in 2023, conducts research focused on quantitative and modeling approaches to genomic and epigenomic data, with the goal of advancing the diagnosis and treatment of complex genetic diseases, including cancer and neurodegenerative disorders. HIS CAP recognition reflects both his exceptional academic trajectory and his commitment to research at the intersection of data science and medicine.

BSW Students Win Poster Presentation at National Social Work Conference

Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) students Kamilah Pasha '26 and Nicholas Novellino '27, won the poster presentation contest at the recent Association of Baccalaureate Social Work Program Directors Annual Conference in New Orleans. Their award-winning poster, "Seeing the Whole Picture: Using the Liberation Health Model in Times of Transformation," was praised by judges for demonstrating a deep understanding of the social work profession's unique perspective on individuals, communities, and social change.

RSOM Students, Postdocs Excel at Three Minute Thesis (3MT) Competition

Congratulations to the RSOM researchers who stood out at SBU's Three Minute Thesis (3MT®) competition, held March 13 in the Student Activities Center. In the graduate student round, Esther Opoola (Molecular and Cellular Biology) took first place with "RSVP Required: Infections Denied Entry," while Tamor Khan (Neuroscience) earned second place with "Scribbling Away Memories." The Postdoc Spotlight round featured an especially strong showing from RSOM: Myeongjin Bae (Neurology) took first place with "Why Balance Gets Harder With Age: What the Brain Tells Us"; Anwasha Sil (Radiology) placed third with "A Smarter Way to Deliver Cancer Treatment"; and Shafeeqe Mohammedali (Neurology) received the People's Choice Award for "Why Some People Age Faster: The Gene–Metabolism Connection."

SSW Students Featured at 2026 BRIDGES Conference

Three SBU School of Social Welfare (SSW) PhD students had their research featured at the second-annual BRIDGES Conference on February 19. Epiphany Adams, Courtney Kidd, and Xiao Liang were among the 90-plus research poster presenters. More than 40 SBU academic departments were represented at the event, which was organized by the SBU Graduate Arts & Sciences Magazine (GradMag) and held in the Student Activities Center.

Psychiatry and Behavioral Health to Host Translational Neuroscience Conference on April 22

The Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Health will host the Translational Neuroscience of Resilience: From Molecular Pathways to Clinical Interventions conference on Wednesday, April 22, from 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the MART Auditorium and Atrium, with a virtual option via Zoom. Open to all members of the community, this engaging program will explore the science of resilience across disciplines, linking molecular research with real-world strategies to support well-being, adaptability and response to stress. Attendees will gain insights from leading experts through a dynamic, accessible format designed for both scientific and general audiences. Continuing Medical Education (CME) credit is available: the School of Medicine at SBU is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide CME for physicians and designates this live activity for up to 3.50 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)™

Stony Brook HOME to Host 5th Annual Gala & Casino Night on April 16

Stony Brook HOME, now celebrating its 20th year, will host its 5th Annual Gala & Casino Night on Thursday, April 16, at the Waterview at the Port Jefferson Country Club. Founded in 2006 by a group of medical students with the support of then-Dean Aldustus Jordan, SB HOME opened in October 2008 as a student-run health clinic serving underserved populations. Over the past two decades, the organization has become a model of student-driven, physician-supervised community care and medical education. The Gala & Casino Night will feature casino-style entertainment, fine dining and celebration while honoring SB HOME's volunteers and patients and supporting its ongoing mission. Attendees can [learn more and register here](#) by April 9.

CLINICAL REPORT

AWARDS, ACCOLADES & NEWS:

- SBELIH has been officially designated as a Primary Stroke Center by The Joint Commission, the nation's leading accrediting body for healthcare quality and safety. This expands access to advanced, coordinated stroke care for communities on the East End of Long Island. The designation follows more than two years of planning, education, and collaboration across the hospital's multidisciplinary stroke team, including clinical, diagnostic, quality, infection prevention, and operational staff, to meet national standards for stroke care, patient safety, and performance improvement.
- LiveOnNY and the LiveOnNY Foundation, is honoring SBUH with the inaugural LiveOnNY Legacies 2026 Award, honoring SBUH as one of the top five donor hospitals in 2025 based on performance and measurable impact in organ donation. This recognition reflects the hospital's leadership and sustained commitment to advancing organ donation in collaboration with LiveOnNY. It acknowledges clinical rigor, operational discipline, and shared dedication required to ensure that the gift of donation translates into lives saved and improved. The legacies created through SBUH teamwork extend far beyond the hospital walls and into families and communities across the nation. Carol Gomes, CEO at SBUH, is invited to receive the recognition at the inaugural Luminaries & Legacies Celebration on Thursday, April 16, 2026, in New York City, where the award will formally be presented with this recognition to the hospital. Additionally, during the presentation to the hospital, LiveOnNY will honor Dr. Jonathan Buscaglia and Dawn Francisquini with the organization's highest honor, the LiveOnNY 'Donor Champion Award' for their unwavering commitment to organ donation during one of the most transformative periods in our history together. This recognition has been given to community leaders, elected officials and individuals who have gone above and beyond to honor and save lives.
- SBUH and SBSH have been recognized as a leader in patient care, earning a spot on Castle Connolly's 2026 Top Hospitals list.

Castle Connolly Top Hospitals recognizes the nation's leading healthcare institutions. The 2026 list includes 1,663 Top Hospitals, selected from over 6,000 hospitals nationwide. These hospitals were evaluated for

their overall excellence, as well as their performance in six specialties and nineteen procedures. SBUH and SBSH were recognized for their clinical expertise in a variety of specialties and procedures including:

Stony Brook University Hospital

- National and State Specialty Award in General Surgery
- State Procedure Award in Hernia Repair

Stony Brook Southampton Hospital

- National and State Specialty Award in OBGYN Surgery
- National and State Procedure Award in C-Section

The recognition is based on a comprehensive, outcomes-driven methodology, which combines recent all-payer outcomes data with Castle Connolly's Top Doctor evaluations, focused on clinical expertise. This approach provides a clear, data-informed view of where high-quality care is being delivered today.

According to recent research by Castle Connolly, nearly 60% of consumers indicate that hospital rankings influence their choice of care – highlighting the growing importance of trusted, accessible quality measures.

- SBELIH was recently recognized by Food Rescue US – North Fork for its growing partnership in redirecting surplus prepared meals to organizations serving individuals and families facing food insecurity across the East End.

During a recent visit to the hospital, Anne Howard and Stephanie McEvily, site Co-Directors of Food Rescue US – North Fork, presented hospital leadership with a plaque recognizing SBELIH's ongoing commitment to donating excess prepared food from the hospital's Greenhouse Grill. The collaboration helps ensure that high-quality prepared meals that might otherwise go unused are safely delivered to community organizations in need.

The program continues to grow each year. In 2025, a total of 1,961 pounds of food were rescued and redistributed, more than doubling the 937 pounds recovered in 2024.

The effort is made possible through the coordination of hospital staff and dedicated volunteers. At SBELIH, Marlene Parrish from the hospital's Greenhouse Grill works closely with Food Rescue volunteer Holly Cato, helping safely package prepared meals for pickup and distribution. The program is supported by Robert Galinski, Director of Nutritional Services, whose team helps ensure food safety and consistency throughout the process.

Representatives from Food Rescue US – North Fork and SBELIH gathered for a photo following the plaque presentation to recognize the continued success of the program and the collaboration that makes it possible.

- According to data gathered by Becker's, SBUH ranked in the top 35 hospitals in the country with the greatest volume of Emergency Department visits in 2025. Hospitals reported data for either calendar year or fiscal year 2025. Start and end dates for the fiscal year may vary by hospital. SBUH reported 115,179 visits for 2025. Emergency Department visits continue to trend positively at SBUH and SBSH, which serve as an indicator for patient choice.

PERSONNEL UPDATES:

- SBSH announced the appointment of Richard Stumacher, MD, MBA, FCCP as Chief Medical Officer (CMO), effective May 2026. Dr. Stumacher will serve as the hospital's senior clinical leader responsible for guiding quality, patient safety, physician engagement, and the advancement of clinical programs. He will report directly to Emily Mastaler, Chief Administrative Officer, SBSH.

Dr. Stumacher is a triple board-certified physician in Internal Medicine, Pulmonary Medicine, and Critical Care Medicine, bringing more than 20 years of clinical leadership across hospital operations, ethics, and medical innovation. He holds an MBA from Hofstra University in Strategic Healthcare Management and is certified by the American Board of Artificial Intelligence in Medicine; an expertise that will play a critical role in the continued advancement of clinical programs on the East End. He currently serves as Medical Director of Case Management at Stamford Hospital and previously held several senior leadership roles at Northern Westchester Hospital, including Associate Chief Medical Officer, Chief of the Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine, Chairman of the Medical Board and the Chair of the Ethics Committee. He has held academic appointments at several highly prestigious institutions, including The Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra / Northwell, Weill Medical College of Cornell University, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, and Fordham University. Dr. Stumacher's expertise has been featured in NBC News 4 New York, Fox Business, U.S. News & World Report and MedPage Today, reflecting his prominence as a clinician, educator and thought leader. Throughout his career, Dr. Stumacher has launched transformative initiatives in lung cancer screening, pulmonary embolism response systems, smoking cessation, and AI-driven clinical models.

SERVICE LINE UPDATES:

Emergency Medicine:

- Based upon data recently submitted to the Department of Health, including the limited number of recent patient encounters requiring ambulance transport to a higher level of care, the Department of Health understands the importance of maintaining timely access to EMS resources for patients in the community and patients presenting to the Stony Brook East Hampton off-campus emergency department. In recognition of the importance of maintaining timely access to EMS resources for patients in the community and presenting to the off-campus emergency department, the Department is providing temporary approval for the standby ambulance to respond to local 911 calls when operationally appropriate.

This approval is granted with the understanding that the primary purpose of the standby ambulance remains to support patient transport needs originating from the off-campus emergency department, particularly for patients requiring transfer to a higher level of care. As part of this temporary approval, SBSH will be required to track and report the volume of 911 responses conducted by the standby ambulance on a quarterly basis and provide this information upon request to the Department of Health. The Department of Health will review this information periodically to determine whether the use of the standby ambulance for 911 responses is affecting its intended purpose. Continued authorization will be dependent on demonstrating that the arrangement does not negatively impact patient care or transfer capabilities for the off-campus emergency department.

Heart Institute:

- The Heart Institute has developed two support groups for our patients:
 - The Left Ventricular Device (LVAD heart pump) support group provides a forum for our LVAD patients to attend a focused session providing practical guidance for managing LVAD care and instances of unexpected events or emergencies. The support group is facilitated by the program's clinical coordinators (nurses, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, physicians) and administrative staff. The support groups will be conducted on a quarterly basis inviting all LVAD patients.
 - The Heart support group will be conducted monthly and is designed for patients and individuals living with heart disease. These small, guided group sessions provide education to help understand and manage your heart health, tools and resources for prevention and recovery and a supportive community of others on a similar journey. Each session will focus on a different heart-health topic led by experienced clinicians from the heart team.

Neurosciences:

- With an aging population, alongside our new CARE initiative with school districts, SBM's ability to provide neuropsychological testing (NPT) and associated recommendations is paramount. A new location for NPT was established in Riverhead (within Quannacut's Article 28 ambulatory site), expanding our capabilities to our east end communities. NPT is most beneficial for patients with suspected or documented brain dysfunction, including Alzheimer's, dementia, Parkinson's, stroke, traumatic brain injury/concussion, and epilepsy. It is also critical for diagnosing neurodevelopmental disorders, including but not limited to, ADHD and autism, as well as assessing cognitive declines from tumors, toxicity, or psychiatric conditions. Each of these conditions is directly tied to SBM's Neurosciences strategic plan. The NPT department is exploring ways to make their services more efficient to accommodate the unrelenting demand of referrals.
- The hospital and department of psychiatry work closely as it pertains to patients who require legal retention and/or treatment over objection due to their serious mental illness. When presenting a case to a judge, the Attorney General's office works with Stony Brook to ensure the hospital is represented, whereas the patient is represented by the NYS Mental Hygiene Legal Service (MHLS). During the COVID pandemic, all hearings were made virtual, which allowed for the legal process to remain intact, while significantly reducing staff and faculty time required to travel to and be present at court, as well as ensuring

significantly improved patient safety. After the public emergency ended, Suffolk County required that all proceedings return to in-person, although most other counties allowed for the continuation of most, if not all, virtual hearings. The Greater New York Hospital Association (GNYHA) has been advocating with the unified court system on behalf of hospitals to demonstrate how the virtual system better met the needs of all involved. GNYHA is currently collecting feedback pertinent to the process to make the case for a standardized, state-wide, virtual approach. Stony Brook will begin submitting institution-specific feedback in the coming months.

OPERATIONAL UPDATES

Essential Services:

- The Linen Department has recently teamed with the ASC support staff to focus on linen conservation. Some simple operational changes have reduced their linen usage by 9% over the past quarter. This has resulted in savings of over \$1,400 when compared to the unit's average linen rental quarterly expense.
- The Supply Chain division saved \$117,000 by renegotiating the contract for guide wires and balloons. Switching suction tubing companies saved SBUH \$132,000. We received \$314,386 from the Premier Group Purchasing Organization for rebates earned for the period of October through December 2025. As part of our annual contract for pulse oximeter probes, we received a credit memo for \$334,414 from our vendor Medtronic, which served as a rebate for volume purchases for the period of October 2024 through September 2025. Total savings, including rebates, were \$897,800.
- Pre-hospital transfusion program went live on December 22, 2025. The Stony Brook Blood Bank now provides blood products for the Suffolk County Police Helicopter Program, establishing the first pre-hospital transfusion program on Long Island. Blood products are stored in temperature-monitored refrigerators at MacArthur Airport (Ronkonkoma) and Francis S. Gabreski Airport (Westhampton). Transportation and storage utilize validated coolers to ensure product integrity. To reduce waste, unused units are returned to the SBUH Blood Bank after approximately 14 days. Each site maintains two units of O NEGATIVE red blood cells. Since the program's launch, Stony Brook EMTs have administered blood transfusions to two patients during helicopter transports, enabling earlier administration of blood products in trauma care and contributing to improved patient outcomes.
- HeartFlow is a non-invasive, AI-driven cardiac imaging analysis that transforms a standard coronary CT angiography scan into a detailed functional assessment of coronary artery disease by showing not only the anatomy but also how blockages affect blood flow. By combining CT imaging with physiologic data, it improves diagnostic accuracy, avoids the need for invasive procedures or stress testing, and helps cardiologists tailor treatment to the specific lesions that matter. Patients benefit from a faster, more comfortable experience, clearer explanations, and fewer unnecessary procedures.

- The Pharmacy has fully implemented bar code scanning and electronic record-keeping in the sterile compounding areas of the pharmacy, which adds another layer of safety for patients. Now each ingredient of a complex IV admixture can be scanned and chronicled, with accurate records maintained.

Facilities:

- The design for the Ronald McDonald house is completed. The grounds team is in the process of leveling the land to ready the ground for foundation work.
- The curtainwall project continues to proceed with two additional floors opening over the past month. The project is nearly 75% completed with the goal to complete work by 2027.

Human Resources:

- National Employee Appreciation Day took place on Friday, March 6. To celebrate our valued employees
 - We shared our appreciation through celebratory signage, an inflatable recognition arch, and targeted communications. A special email was sent featuring a virtual gratitude bag that highlights our employee engagement programs, activities, available support resources, and opportunities to get involved and share ideas to help shape a positive employee experience and culture.
 - Clear SBM-branded bags were distributed to departments and units as a small token of gratitude.
 - Leaders were encouraged to round on their departments/units to personally thank their teams and distribute the bags. Leaders were also invited to recognize staff during daily huddles, department meetings, or newsletters; send a Star Card to acknowledge individual contributions; or host a brief virtual MS Teams or in-person gathering.

Outreach and Advocacy:

- On March 17th, Dr. Wertheim hosted an all-staff Town Hall at SBELIH and streamed across the SBM system. The meeting included Insights from SBELIH's Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Alison Madden, and an introduction of SBELIH's new Chief Nursing Officer, Annalisa Monihand. Lightning round topics included iRounds in Action by Nicol Rossol, Chief Patient Experience Officer, SBUH; Community Outreach: Dignity in Care – Supporting Behavioral Health Patients through Community Giving by Janet Jackowski, VP, Behavioral Health and Social Services, SBELIH and Linda Sweeney, VP, Foundation/External Affairs, SBELIH, and Food Farmacy Spotlight by Josephine Connolly, Schoonen, Executive Director, Nutrition Division, SBM. The meeting was attended by nearly 1,000 employees and included Q&A discussions.
- President Goldsmith was joined by Dr. Wertheim and Carol Gomes when she visited SBELIH, SBSH, and the Stony Brook East Hampton Emergency Department. SBELIH Chief Administrative Officer Paul Connor and SBSH CAO Emily Mastaler provided overviews of their respective hospitals and included introductions of their leadership teams and tours.

- SBM leadership has been actively engaged with leaders in Albany and Washington to ensure they understand the critical role SBM plays for Long Island, and the importance of continued investment in our mission.
- In Albany we discussed the need for increased capital for our healthcare facilities, waving our debt service obligations and the approval to build healthcare workforce housing on the Southampton campus.
- On the federal level, the language from the Save Our Safety Net Hospitals Act, led by our Representative Nick LaLota and Senators Kirsten Gillibrand and Chuck Schumer was approved as part of the budget bill passed and signed into law in January. As a result, SBUH will save approximately \$53M per year in Medicaid DSH cuts.
- And related to this, earlier this month we met with representatives of the Division of Budget to advocate for changes to a State Medicaid formula so we can recoup our DSH costs faster and more efficiently. Currently we get an initial share of about 18% of our total DSH funds for the year costs were accrued and wait 3-4 years for the reconciliation of the remaining 82%; as a result, the hospital has receivables for DSH of over \$1B. We are working with our colleague SUNY hospitals and the DOB to change that formula.