



MEMORANDUM

**TO:** University Senate

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

**DATE:** March 7, 2016

**SUBJECT:** President's Report

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**I. HELP BUILD OUR NEW DIVERSITY PLAN**

I am pleased to announce that the draft diversity plan was shared with the University last week. This plan addresses concerns that students and faculty of different races, ages, religions, abilities and sexual orientations shared with us. Our goal is to improve how we embrace our diversity and become a more welcoming campus for all. To see the draft plan, visit: [www.stonybrook.edu/diversityplan](http://www.stonybrook.edu/diversityplan). I encourage you to review the draft and share your comments by **March 11**. Your feedback is invaluable and will help inform the plan's implementation process.

**II. RECENT APPOINTMENT & SEARCH UPDATE**

**Dr. Melissa Woo to Join Stony Brook as VP for Information Technology and CIO**

**Dr. Melissa Z. Y. Woo** has been named Vice President for Information Technology and Chief Information Officer (CIO) at Stony Brook University, effective April 4. As a member of my senior leadership team, Melissa will report directly to me and work with senior academic and administrative leaders across the institution. She will oversee the Stony Brook Division of Information Technology (DoIT) and the provision of IT services to our faculty, staff and students. Melissa will also collaborate with the Chief Information Officer of Stony Brook University Hospital in the ongoing development of information systems between the main academic campus and the Stony Brook Medicine campus. Prior to joining Stony Brook, Melissa served at the University of Oregon as the Vice Provost for Information Services and Chief Information Officer since 2012. A graduate of the EDUCAUSE Institute Management and Leadership Programs, and a Frye Leadership Institute Fellow, Melissa received the EDUCAUSE 2012 Rising Star Award, and from 2012 through 2015 served as a senior reviewer of EDUCAUSE Review Online. Prior to her appointment at UO, she held appointments at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where she began her career in information services and earned her Ph.D. in Biophysics. Prior to that she received her B.A. in Biophysics at UC Berkeley.

## **Provost Search Update**

I am pleased to report that a committee has been formed and is engaged in the task to search for an outstanding candidate to serve as Stony Brook University's next Provost and Sr. Vice President for Academic Affairs. **Russell Reynolds Associates** has been selected to conduct this search on behalf of the University. **Dr. Ilene H. Nagel**, who heads the firm's Higher Education Practice, will lead the search along with her colleagues, **Jett Pihakis** and **Bridget Hough-Meynenc**. For further information on the search, to view the position description, for a list of the search committee members, or to nominate a candidate, please visit [www.stonybrook.edu/provostsearch](http://www.stonybrook.edu/provostsearch). Thank you in advance for your recommendations and engagement as we begin this important search.

### **III. GOVERNOR CUOMO LAUNCHES STATEWIDE WATER QUALITY INITIATIVES**

On February 18, **Governor Andrew M. Cuomo** came to Stony Brook to announce various statewide water quality initiatives, which include:

- Creation of a Statewide Water Quality Rapid Response Team
- Forthcoming Statewide regulations related to oversight and safeguard of natural resources
- Samples from the Northrop Grumman plume on Long Island are being tested
- NYS will partner with the U.S. Geological Survey to conduct a comprehensive ground water survey to ensure Long Island's drinking water is protected and properly managed

Clean and safe water is a critical issue not only to Stony Brook and Long Island but the world, and the Governor's action should be applauded.

### **IV. CHANCELLOR ZIMPHER ANNOUNCES INVESTMENT AND PERFORMANCE FUND AWARDS**

Chancellor **Nancy L. Zimpher** announced on March 2 that approximately \$8 million will be awarded to SUNY campuses from the university system's Investment and Performance Fund. Awards will contribute to the expansion of the Empire Innovation Program (EIP), which supports campus efforts to recruit faculty researchers with a proven track record of externally funded research to SUNY. Stony Brook University will receive \$650,000 in EIP funds to create a Center for Frontiers in Nuclear Science (CFNS); \$650,000 in EIP funds to establish an extreme-scale computing program; and \$650,000 in EIP funds to recruit a master innovator in experimental Atomic, Molecular and Optical (AMO) Physics and establish a Center for Ultra-Fast Spectroscopy and Dynamics.

### **V. STARS OF STONY BROOK GALA 2016**

This year's Stars of Stony Brook Gala will be held on **Wednesday, April 20 at Pier Sixty in New York City** and will honor **Glenn Dubin, Dr. Eva Andersson-Dubin** and **Joe Nathan**. Proceeds from the Stars of Stony Brook Gala will support student scholarships, the Dubin Challenge for the Indoor Training Center and Stony Brook Baseball. For additional information or to purchase tickets, contact Tamara Leuchtenburg at (212) 245-6570 (extension 15) or [tamaral@eventassociatesinc.com](mailto:tamaral@eventassociatesinc.com).

## VI. FUNDRAISING UPDATE

Since the University Senate last met on February 1, Advancement has secured an additional \$7.5 million in new gifts and pledges, including 1,524 gifts from first-time donors. Advancement has now raised \$438.5 million towards our \$600 million Campaign goal. The following commitments are recent examples of the tremendous support the Campaign continues to attract:

- \$1,000,000 from **Robert W. Lourie** for the Simons Center for Geometry and Physics Endowment Fund and the Lisa and Robert Lourie Imaging Suite
- \$360,000 from the **Laurie Landeau Foundation** for the Maze-Landeau Marine Science Fellowships and Graduate Student Fund for Excellence
- \$200,624 from the **Summer Math Foundation, Inc.** for the Summer Math Scholarship Endowed Fund
- \$100,000 from **Nancy Burner & Associates P.C.** for Stony Brook Cancer Center head and neck cancer research

For additional updates on the campaign, please visit [stonybrook.edu/campaign](http://stonybrook.edu/campaign).

## VII. SPRING ENROLLMENT FINAL SNAPSHOT

A total of 24,157 students were registered at the start of day 15 of the spring 2016 semester – 475 more students than last year at the same point in the term. Compared to day 15 of spring 2015, the following changes were observed by area:

- + 339 West Campus Undergraduates
- + 21 Graduate School (includes West Campus, HSC, and Southampton)
- + 38 School of Professional Development
- + 12 East Campus/HSC
- + 128 Southampton

## VIII. HONORARY DEGREE CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The Committee on Honorary Degrees will begin its work leading to the recommendations of candidates for SUNY Honorary Degrees to be awarded in 2017. The chair of the committee is **Dr. Charles Taber**, Vice Provost for Graduate and Professional Education and Dean of the Graduate School. The purposes of awarding honorary degrees by the State University of New York are:

- To recognize excellence in the fields of public affairs, the sciences, humanities and the arts, scholarship and education, business and philanthropy, and social services, which exemplify the mission and purposes of the State University of New York;
- To honor meritorious and outstanding service to the University, the State of New York, the United States, or to humanity at large; and
- To recognize persons whose lives serve as examples of the University's aspirations for its students.

Nominations should be sent to **Rayna Simon** via interoffice mail (zip = 4433) or email ([rayna.simon@stonybrook.edu](mailto:rayna.simon@stonybrook.edu)). **The deadline for submission is Friday, April 1.** To obtain further information, a complete list of past SUNY or Stony Brook honorary degree recipients, or a set of the guidelines adopted by the Board of Trustees, please contact Ms. Simon at 632-7035.

## **IX. INVESTITURE CEREMONY FOR RAMIN PARSEY ENDOWED CHAIR IN BIOMEDICAL IMAGING IN THE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE**

**Dr. Ramin Parsey** was installed as the inaugural holder of the Della Pietra Family Endowed Chair in Biomedical Imaging in the School of Medicine on February 29. Dr. Parsey collaborates with scientists throughout the University to advance the University's various research programs through the application of imaging technologies. His background in biochemistry, biophysics, and medicine positions him to bring together researchers from a variety of disciplines to translate advances in mathematics, computational science, and biology into improvements in the diagnosis and treatment of severe illnesses such as depression and schizophrenia.

## **X. 2016 'RECYCLEMANIA' TOURNAMENT**

This year's eight-week recycling competition is underway and runs through **April 2**. The Department of Recycling & Resource Management and the Office of Sustainability is promoting recycling on West Campus by providing receptacles for office cleaning and complimentary paper shredding, in addition to the removal of e-waste and other recyclable materials during the eight-week competition. To request recycling services, please submit work orders into the University's FIXIT work order system at [www.stonybrook.edu/fixit/](http://www.stonybrook.edu/fixit/). For more information on RecycleMania at Stony Brook, please contact Recycling & Resource Management at (631) 632-4640 or via email at [recycling@stonybrook.edu](mailto:recycling@stonybrook.edu). In 2014 we took first place in e-waste recycling with 125,498 pounds recycled. In 2015 we improved our total e-waste score for the third consecutive year by recycling 139,676 pounds of material. Let's keep the momentum going and finish as a top campus recycler in 2016!

## **XI. RECENT EVENTS**

### **Staller Center for the Arts Gala 2016**

On March 5, the Staller Center for the Arts hosted its Gala 2016. **Vanessa Williams**, one of the most respected and multi-faceted performers in entertainment today, and acclaimed rhythm & blues and soul singer-songwriter **Peabo Bryson**, entertained before a packed house.

### **HeForShe: Gender Equality Conference**

Stony Brook University hosted the HeForShe: UN Women Solidarity Movement for Gender Equality Conference, from March 3-4 at the Charles B. Wang Center. Over 25 SUNY campuses joined us and explored curricular and co-curricular issues, Title IX, and student perspectives on gender equality. I had the privilege of giving remarks at this forum and am impressed by the commitment across the system to tackle some incredibly important issues.

## **XII. UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **Celebrating Women's History Month at Stony Brook**

Stony Brook University is recognizing Women's History Month by holding a series of exciting events that will take place on campus throughout the month. For a full listing of events, please click [here](#). All are encouraged to join the celebration by attending any of these fantastic events.

## **Spring 2016 Charles B. Wang Center Cultural Programming Opening Reception**

An opening reception for the spring 2016 exhibitions at the Charles B. Wang Center will take place on **Thursday, March 10** from 5:00-7:00 p.m. The grand unveiling will include: Webtoon: The Evolution of Korean Digital Comics; Space Drawing by Sun K. Kwak; and Shiva Ahamdi: Spheres of Suspension. Remarks by **Sun K. Kwak** will be followed by a reception in the Theatre Lobby.

### **XIII. ATHLETICS UPDATE<sup>1</sup>**

#### **Winter Sports**

- **Indoor Track and Field:** Junior **Christina Melian** (Staten Island, NY) and freshman **Holly Manning** (Napier, New Zealand) won individual titles at the 2016 America East Indoor Track & Field Championships. Stony Brook's women's squad placed fifth with 75 points and the men's team finished sixth with 69 points.
- **Men's Basketball:** The team finished the regular season with an incredible 23-6 record and won the regular season conference title. As a result, the team entered the America East Conference playoffs as the number one seed and will host all playoff games at Island Federal Credit Union Arena up through the championship game. The team advanced past UMBC 86-76 in the America East Quarterfinals on March 2. They will take on Hartford on March 7. Senior **Jameel Warney** (Plainfield, NJ) was named Player of the Year for the third consecutive year and was named Defensive Player of the Year for the second straight year. Senior **Carson Puriefoy** (Wenonah, NJ) was also named to the first team while senior **Rayshaun McGrew** earned second team honors. Junior **Ahmad Walker** (Port Washington, NY) joined Jameel Warney on the all-defensive team, while sophomore **Bryan Sekunda** (State College, PA) earned all-academic honors with a 3.44 gpa. For the fourth time in his career, Head Coach **Steve Pikiell** was recognized with Coach of the Year honors.
- **Women's Basketball:** Head Coach **Caroline McCombs** and the women's basketball team finished the regular season with an overall record of 16-13. The America East Conference Championship for the women will be held at Binghamton University on March 5 and 6 with conference awards announced on Friday, March 4.

#### **Spring Sports**

- **Women's Lacrosse:** The spring season just started for the #10/#8 ranked Seawolves. In their opening game at Bryant University, Stony Brook prevailed 18-4 and are now preparing for their first home game of the year. On Sunday, March 6, Head Coach **Joe Spallina** and the team will face #3/#3 University of Florida at LaValle Stadium. Stony Brook defeated the Gators in Tallahassee last year by a score of 12-11.

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<sup>1</sup> As of March 2

- **Men's Lacrosse:** Head Coach **Jim Nagle** and the Men's Lacrosse team are off to a 2-1 start to their season and a #19 national ranking. Their most recent home game at LaValle Stadium was against #9 Brown University, which saw the Seawolves come up just short in a 16-14 loss to their Ivy League opponent. Upcoming contests include a game at Fairfield University followed by two important home games against Rutgers University (March 11) and Hofstra (March 15).
- **Men's and Women's Tennis:** Both teams are off to solid starts. The men won their first two matches against Lehigh and Queens College, while the women are off to a 3-2 start. The women defeated Lehigh, LIU Brooklyn and Bryant while losing close matches to Connecticut and #52 Brown University.