



MEMORANDUM

TO: University Senate
FROM: Maurie McInnis, President
DATE: April 3, 2023
SUBJECT: President's Report

LEADERSHIP UPDATES

HARESH GURNANI SELECTED TO LEAD COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Haresh Gurnani has been named as the new dean of the College of Business at Stony Brook University, effective July 2023. Gurnani will join Stony Brook from Wake Forest University, where he holds multiple high-level leadership positions. He currently serves as area chair of Business Analytics, Operations Management, Marketing and Economics areas in the School of Business. He is the Thomas H. Davis Chair in the school, program director of the Mathematical Business Program (joint program between the School of Business and Wake Forest College), and serves on the university's committee on Network for Inclusive Leadership and Engagement. Gurnani succeeds Manny London, who has served as dean of the College for the last decade. London has been the guiding force in the College's growth and ascendance, which recently resulted in AACSB accreditation.

UNIVERSITY NEWS

SBU PROGRAMS AMONG THE TOP IN QS WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS

The QS World University Rankings — a leading organization for international rankings — rated the world's top universities by subject area, and placed Stony Brook University's Physics and Astronomy program in the top 100, coming in at #90. Seven other subjects placed in the top 300 — Natural Sciences (#153), Mathematics (#151-200), Geology (#201-230), Geophysics (#201-230) #201-230 History (#201-230), Biological Sciences (#201-250) and Psychology (#251-300). This year marks the largest subject ranking yet, including more than 15,700 different academic programs from 1,594 institutions. Academic programs are ranked using five indicators to effectively reflect their performance, taking into account academic reputation, employer reputation and faculty research.

STONY BROOK HONORED WITH TREE CAMPUS USA DESIGNATION FOR TENTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR

Stony Brook University was named a 2022 Tree Campus Higher Education Institution for the tenth consecutive year. Tree Campus Higher Education, the national program launched in 2008 by the [Arbor Day Foundation](#), honors colleges and universities, and their leaders, for promoting healthy trees and engaging students and staff in the spirit of conservation. To obtain this distinction, Stony Brook University met the five core standards for effective campus forest management, including establishing a tree advisory committee; creating a campus tree care plan; dedicating annual expenditures for that campus tree program; observing Arbor Day; and sponsoring student service-learning projects. Over the last ten years, the University has planted just over 1,200 trees and engaged with hundreds of students who have helped plant and maintain our landscapes across campus during numerous University events.

INDIVIDUAL ACCOLADES

PRESIDENT MCINNIS MAKES ‘CITY AND STATE NEW YORK’ LIST OF HIGHER EDUCATION POWER 100

President Maurie McInnis has been named No. 14 in the [City & State New York 2023 Higher Education Power 100](#), which recognizes New York’s most influential academic leaders. City & State — a media organization dedicated to covering New York’s local and state politics and policy — identified the college and university officials who are making the biggest difference, both on and off campus.

PROFESSOR HAROLD METCALF IS THE OPTICA 2023 ESTHER HOFFMAN BELLER MEDAL RECIPIENT

Professor Harold Metcalf has been selected as the Optica (formerly OSA), Advancing Optics and Photonics Worldwide 2023 recipient of the Esther Hoffman Beller Medal. Metcalf, a distinguished teaching professor in the Department of Physics and Astronomy in the College of Arts and Sciences, is being honored for outstanding mentorship of undergraduate students in hands-on optics research and for organizing an annual symposium for students to present their work during the Frontier in Optics/Laser Science (FiO/LS) conference.

FIFTEEN SBU STUDENT RESEARCHERS EARN SUNY GRADUATE RESEARCH AWARD

Fifteen Stony Brook University graduate students are among the 33 student researchers selected for the 2023 SUNY Graduate Research Empowering and Accelerating Talent (GREAT) award. The [SUNY GREAT awards](#), now entering their third year, provide incentives for SUNY graduate students to compete for federal awards sponsored by agencies including the National Science Foundation, National Institutes of Health, and U.S. Department of Energy, among others. Each winner will receive \$5,000 in flexible funding for research expenses, professional development, and stipend supplements. The following are Stony Brook’s GREAT Award recipients for 2023: **David Arnot; Alexander Baez; Clare Beatty; John Chen; Dylan Galt; Kenneth Hanson; Abe Leite; Adelmy Janice Marin Bernardez; Riley McDanal; Sarah Payne; Chantelle A. Roulston; Jenny**

Shen; Samatha Stettinisch; Dillon Voss; and Kristin Walker.

TWO SBU LONG ISLAND SOUND RESEARCH PROJECTS RECEIVE NEW YORK SEA GRANT FUNDING FROM \$6.3M SUITE

[New York Sea Grant](#) (NYSG), along with Connecticut Sea Grant (CTSG) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Long Island Sound Study (LISS) Research Grant Program, has awarded more than \$6.3 million in total funds to support nine research projects, five of which are administered at Stony Brook University. The projects will focus on Long Island Sound marshes, water quality and public beaches. The two funded research projects led by SBU investigators are: *Evaluating Changes in Suitable Habitat and Distribution of Cold- and Warm-Adaptive Fish Species in a Changing Long Island Sound to Inform Ecosystem-Based Management* led by [Yong Chen](#), SoMAS and *Equitable Access to Long Island Sound Waterfront and Beaches Through On-Demand Mobility* led by [Anil Yazici](#), Dept of Civil Engineering and Elizabeth Hewitt, Department of Technology and Society and [Elizabeth Hewitt](#), Assistant Professor, Department of Technology and Society.

THREE ENGINEERING FACULTY EARN NSF EARLY CAREER AWARDS

Three faculty from the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences (CEAS) were recently awarded [Early CAREER grants](#) from the National Science Foundation (NSF). [Xinwei Mao](#), an assistant professor in the Department of Civil Engineering received a \$559K grant for her CAREER research, *Next Generation Onsite Wastewater Treatment System for Nitrogen Management*. [Shanshan Yao](#), and assistant professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering was awarded \$500K for her proposal *Closing the Loop of Human-Machine Interactions via Skin-like Multimodal Haptic Interfaces*. [Shubham Jain](#), an assistant professor in the Department of Computer Science will receive \$550K over the next five years for the project *Closed-loop Health Behavior Interventions in Multi-Device Environments*.

STUDENT AFFAIRS UPDATE

Women's History Month

Many educational and cultural events were planned throughout the month to celebrate and highlight the achievements of women and promote gender equality. The Opening Ceremony featured a panel of SBU experts including **Dr. Fatima Daoud, Dr. Marci Lobel, Dr. Angela Kokkosis, and Ursula Zalewski** and was moderated by **Kathleen Valerio**. The Closing Celebration featured 40 Under Forty honoree and CEO/co-founder of Brown Girl Magazine, Inc., **Trisha Sakhuja-Walia '11, '12**.

Volunteer Week:

The **Center for Service Learning and Community Service** hosted its first SBU Week of Service, Monday, March 27 through Friday, March 31. This is a week dedicated to getting involved and making an impact on the community. Each day included different community service events centered around different causes such as campus beautification projects on the East, West and Southampton campuses, two volunteer fairs, a service project at the Long Island State Veterans Home along with an activity building accessible toys for children with disabilities, and a week-long food drive to support the SBU Food Pantry.

Upcoming Campus Events:

- Earthstock: April 21st
- Roth Regatta: April 28th
- May 3rd: Strawberry Fest and Diversity Day

ADVANCEMENT UPDATE

Since the start of the 2023 fiscal year, \$39.8 million has been generously pledged or contributed by more than 6,822 donors. Their investments in our students, research, healthcare and campus programs provide critical support, helping to elevate the University.

Generous contributions since the last update include:

- \$2,007,000 received in gifts and pledges for the 2023 Stars of Stony Brook Gala
- \$1 million pledge benefitting the Department of Pediatrics, the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology and the Department of Urology
- \$195,000 pledge to the Velay Women and Science Research Fellowship Program in the College of Arts and Sciences
- \$156,000 to the Marie Colvin Memorial Fund in the School of Communication and Journalism
- \$124,000 gift for the Department of Chemistry Amber Research
- \$99,000 gift to the Center for India Studies
- \$88,000 pledge to support the Laser Teaching Center and URECA
- \$87,000 in gifts to support the Staller Center, Seawolves United and a professorship in the College of Arts and Sciences
- \$87,000 gift to support the Pediatric Emergency Department Expansion Fund
- \$87,000 gift to support the Staller Center, President's Innovation and Excellence Fund and the Center for Medical Humanities
- \$87,000 gift to the Department of Geosciences
- \$87,000 gift to Stony Brook University Hospital Nursing Continuing Education Fund
- \$87,000 to the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering
- \$75,000 to the Ethos Lab Fund in the Department of Computer Science
- \$67,000 gift towards a scholarship for theater students in the College of Arts and Sciences

Giving Day Update:

Stony Brook University hosted its fifth annual **Giving Day** on March 29. As of Friday, March 31 we have raised \$757,089 compared to last year \$392,351. Stony Brook University community members made a significant and lasting impact on programs this year, contributing 3,178 gifts to university and Stony Brook Medicine programs. The support generated on this year's Giving Day will open doors for leading problem solvers, healthcare heroes, entrepreneurs and forward thinkers.

Upcoming Advancement Events:

The annual **Stars of Stony Brook Gala** will be held Tuesday, April 11 at Cipriani 42nd Street in New York City. The Gala will celebrate Laurie Landeau and Bob Maze for their meaningful impact on the University and marine environments. Tickets can be purchased online at stonysbrook.edu/gala.

June 27 - **Stony Brook Scholarship Golf Classic**

UPCOMING EVENTS

DR. MAY EDWARD CHINN HALL RIBBON CUTTING ON APRIL 5

The Stony Brook University community is invited to a ribbon-cutting celebration in the Tabler Community Residence Quad on Wednesday, April 5, to recognize the naming of Dr. May Edward Chinn Hall. The commemoration follows the SUNY Board of Trustees' approval earlier this year of a [formal process](#) that Stony Brook initiated in 2020 to rename Sanger Residence Hall. Dr. May Edward Chinn was the first African American and Native American woman to graduate from Bellevue Hospital Medical College, which is now the NYU School of Medicine, and a tireless advocate who broke down racial and socioeconomic barriers to ensure access to high-quality care. The ceremony begins at noon and all are welcome.

ANNUAL COLVIN DISTINGUISHED LECTURE FOSTERS CONVERSATION ABOUT MENTAL HEALTH, APRIL 20TH

This year's annual Marie Colvin Distinguished Lecture, "Journalists on the Frontline: War, Conflict and Post-Traumatic Stress," will bring together experts and reports to talk about how to equip journalists with the tools they need to thrive in a confrontational world. The lecture is scheduled for Thursday, April 20th, 6:00pm in the Wang Center Theater. The lecture is free and open to the public. You can register [here](#).

ATHLETICS UPDATE¹

- Stony Brook Athletics announced a \$2.5 million anonymous gift in the form of a 1:1 matching challenge designated to revitalize the Baseball and Softball complex. The same family also provided an additional \$500,000 in support for the Stony Brook basketball program and their individual athletes' and programmatic needs, including academic incentive awards for student-athletes, team travel and meal costs, and recruiting.
- Women's Lacrosse is currently ranked sixth nationally with its only two losses coming against No. 1 Syracuse and No. 2 Northwestern. The team is now 2-0 in CAA play and has not lost a conference game since 2014.
- Men's Lacrosse senior Dylan Pallonetti was named CAA Player of the Week for the second time this season after scoring seven points (six goals, one assist) in the Seawolves' 15-12 win over Monmouth. Pallonetti scored the 100th goal of his career and extended his goal

¹ As of March 29, 2023

scoring streak to 37 consecutive games, which is the second-longest such streak in the nation.

- Senior pitcher Ashton Melaas was named CAA Co-Pitcher of the Week after posting a 0.43 ERA in the circle as she helped lead the squad to its first-ever CAA win in a 4-0 shutout over Drexel.
- For the second year in a row, women's basketball head coach Ashley Langford has been selected to the Advancement of Blacks in Sports (ABIS) women's basketball Black head coaches watch list as announced by the organization. She joins nine other women's basketball head coaches: Zenarae Antoine (Texas State), Billi Chambers (Iona), Anita Howard (Georgia Southern), Kim McNeill (East Carolina), Tomekia Reed (Jackson State), Alex Simmons (Gardner Webb), Tonya Warren (Northern Iowa), Toyelle Wilson (SMU), and Brittany Young (Austin Peay).
- Football held the first of its 15 spring practices on March 23 with the annual spring game taking place on April 23. The team opens the 2023 season at home on Thursday, August 31 at 7 p.m.
- Men's soccer alum Stephen Turnbull made his Major League Soccer debut on March 7 when he competed for NYCFC. He is the fourth player in program history to appear on an MLS roster.