



MEMORANDUM

**TO:** University Senate

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

**DATE:** December 2, 2013

**SUBJECT:** President's Report

**I. DRAFT STRATEGIC PLAN**

Stony Brook University's draft Strategic Plan for 2013-2018 was sent by email to all faculty, students and staff on November 8, 2013. I encouraged all members of the Stony Brook community to read the plan and provide input. In response to this call, the Plan was viewed more than 11,000 times – 6,000 of which were unique views. Hundreds of comments were submitted from diverse constituencies across campus. Overall, the comments have been positive and insightful. I look forward to continue reviewing and responding to the feedback.

**II. START-UP NY UPDATE**

Start-Up NY is an exciting university-based economic development initiative that was signed into law in June. As you may recall, I assembled a working group this summer to review and brainstorm how Start-Up NY can enable Stony Brook to attract and continue to create new high technology businesses, while benefiting our students and furthering the University's mission. Senate member Dr. Robert Kelly is part of this working group, which has been working hard to put together a draft plan. This proposal will ultimately be presented to campus constituents (including governance, faculty, staff, and students) and the local community for comments.

Governor Cuomo recently appointed Ms. Leslie Whatley as Executive Vice President for the START-UP NY program. The Governor announced, "Ms. Whatley will work with Empire State Development (ESD) and other public and private entities and organizations in leading and managing all aspects of the Start-Up NY program." On November 15, the University welcomed Ms. Whatley to campus to discuss the initiative and our efforts.

**III. PRESIDENTIAL MINI-GRANTS FOR DEPARTMENTAL DIVERSITY INITIATIVE**

Presidential Mini-Grants have a rich history at Stony Brook. This initiative is intended to promote diversity through the development of ideas that address departmental needs. An announcement will go out in the near future that will detail proposal guidelines and the submission deadline. In the meantime, for general information, visit: <http://www.stonybrook.edu/pres/minigrants.html>.

#### IV. FACULTY HONORS

##### AAAS Elects Three New Fellows from Stony Brook University

Three Stony Brook University professors were recently elected as Fellows of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) for their scientific and social efforts to advance science or its applications. The Fellows are: **Dr. James B. Bliska**, Professor, Department of Molecular Genetics and Microbiology; **Dr. Laszlo Mihaly**, Chair and Professor, Department of Physics and Astronomy; and **Dr. Dianna Padilla**, Professor, Ecology and Evolution Department. Stony Brook's three recipients are among 388 newly elected members who will be honored at the Fellows Forum held during the AAAS Annual Meeting on February 15, 2014 in Chicago, IL.

##### SUNY Board of Trustees Appoints Two Stony Brook Faculty Members to Distinguished Ranks

Two Stony Brook University faculty members were recently appointed to distinguished ranks by the State University of New York Board of Trustees. **Dr. Joseph S.B. Mitchell**, a professor in the Department of Applied Mathematics and Statistics and research professor in the Department of Computer Science, has been named SUNY Distinguished Professor. **Dr. Michael Schwartz**, the chair of the Department of Sociology and faculty director of the Undergraduate College of Global Studies, has been named SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor. SUNY has appointed 975 faculty to distinguished ranks since the program's inception in 1963.

#### V. DR. BENJAMIN HSIAO STEPPING DOWN AS VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH

Dr. Benjamin Hsiao intends to step down from his current position as Vice President for Research, effective December 15. He will return to an active teaching and research position in the Department of Chemistry. Dr. Hsiao made many significant contributions to the Stony Brook Research Office. The University made progress launching several large research initiatives while he was at the helm and I thank him for his service. An Interim Vice President will be announced in the near future. A national search will then be commenced to fill this important position.

#### VI. DR. BRADEN HOSCH WELCOMED AS ASSISTANT VICE PRESIDENT FOR INSTITUTIONAL PLANNING, RESEARCH AND EFFECTIVENESS

The Stony Brook University Office of Institutional Research, Planning and Effectiveness (IRP&E), formerly known as the Office of Institutional Research (OIR), is now under the direction of Dr. Braden Hosch. Just weeks into the job, Dr. Hosch is reviewing current needs in order to better support the academic, research and administrative needs for robust, on demand, institutional research and planning metrics.

#### VII. FACILITIES UPDATES

##### Utility Projects

- The SUNY Construction Fund recently completed the replacement of all direct buried high temperature hot water piping on our campus. This \$30 million project was completed in several phases over a seven-year period.

- The SUNY Construction Fund is working on a project to replace all underground electric transmission feeders which will be completed over three phases. Phase I has started and includes installation of concrete encased conduit and manholes on both East and West Campuses. Phase II of the project will include installation of electric cables from the West Campus electric sub-station to East Campus and is currently in the bidding phase. Phase III will include the extension of conduit to all West Campus buildings, as well as the installation of new electric cables to all building main switch gear. The entire project is expected to be completed by fall of 2016 at an estimated cost of \$50 million.
- This year, Campus Facilities started and completed a \$4 million project that replaced the main direct buried chilled water supply lines on campus.

#### **New Residence Hall and Dining Facility**

- The Phase I design of the Toll Drive Residence and Dining Hall project is now complete. This phase includes 302 new beds, as well as a 60,000 square foot new dining facility. Bids on this project are expected in early spring of 2014 and construction is slated for completion in the spring of 2016. Phase II will include 455 additional beds and is expected to be ready for bidding in the summer of 2014. It is anticipated that this phase will be completed by the fall 2016 semester.

#### **Sustainability**

- The Facilities & Services Sustainability website has been redesigned. The website highlights the University's sustainability initiatives, environmental awareness campaigns, community outreach efforts, and features a sustainability spotlight section and calendar. To view the newly redesigned website visit: <http://www.stonybrook.edu/sustainability/>.
- Biking at Stony Brook continues to be promoted throughout campus. In this light, additional bicycle racks have been installed at the Student Activities Center, West Apartments I, South P Lot, Library, Student Union, and at the Long Island Railroad bus stop. Racks have also been added on all SBU Transit buses and shuttles. To view the interactive bicycle rack map visit: <http://www.stonybrook.edu/transportation/bicycle-racks.shtml>.

### **VIII. STONY BROOK SET TO CELEBRATE WINTER COMMENCEMENT**

Stony Brook will celebrate Winter Commencement on **Thursday, December 19 in the Pritchard Gymnasium**. Having received approval from the SUNY Board of Trustees, Stony Brook will proudly bestow the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Letters upon alumnus Joe Nathan, a standout Major League Baseball pitcher.

The first ceremony will begin at 10:00 a.m. and will recognize graduates in the College of Arts and Sciences. The second ceremony is scheduled for 2:00 p.m. and will include graduates from all other colleges and schools. The ceremonies will confer bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees for summer 2013 and fall 2013 graduates. As of November 27, just over 2,200 students have applied for graduation.

## IX. RECENT EVENTS

### Carl Bernstein Featured at Presidential Lecture

Carl Bernstein delivered an engaging lecture entitled “Why Isn’t Our Government Working – And Can It?” on November 18 at the Staller Center Main Stage. The Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist, author, political analyst and Visiting Presidential Professor at Stony Brook repeatedly stressed the need to “pursue the best obtainable version of the truth.” An insightful question and answer session followed Bernstein’s lecture.

### Groundbreaking Ceremony for the Medical and Research Translation Building (MART)

On November 13, Stony Brook broke ground to showcase the start of construction on the new Medical and Research Translation (MART) Building on East Campus. The presence of those who helped make the MART possible, included: Jim Simons, Governor Andrew Cuomo, SUNY Chancellor Nancy Zimpher, Dr. Kenneth Kaushansky (Sr. Vice President for Health Sciences and School of Medicine Dean), as well as Kevin Law (President & CEO of the Long Island Association and Stony Brook Council Chairman). The ceremony took place with hundreds on hand to celebrate.

### Survey Results Regarding the Impact of Sequestration Released at Press Conference

The Association of American Universities (AAU), the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU) and The Science Coalition (TSC), representing the nation’s leading public and private research universities, released the results of a new survey looking at sequestration’s impact on research across the country. Held in conjunction with the APLU’s Annual Meeting, the press conference took place in mid-November in Washington D.C., wherein the results of the survey were presented. Additional information is available here:

[http://sb.cc.stonybrook.edu/news/general/131112\\_Sequestration\\_Eroding\\_America\\_Research.php](http://sb.cc.stonybrook.edu/news/general/131112_Sequestration_Eroding_America_Research.php)

## X. UPCOMING EVENTS

### Annual Windmill Lighting and Festivities at Stony Brook Southampton

As Stony Brook Southampton continues to observe its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the annual holiday Windmill Lighting and reception will take place on **Friday, December 6, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. in Chancellors Hall**. Festivities will also include music from the Stony Brook University Pep Band, an appearance by Wolfie, seasonal refreshments, a caricaturist, balloon artist, and crafts for children. Tours of the new Marine Sciences Center, the Doctor of Physical Therapy Labs, and the iconic windmill will be available. This program is free and open to the public.

Following the Windmill Lighting and reception, the School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences (SoMAS) will present a lecture on the New York State Resiliency Institute for Storms and Emergencies (NYS RISE) in **Duke Lecture Hall at 7:30 p.m.** The presentation will highlight the goals, objectives, and activities of NYS RISE and will examine the role that SoMAS will play in ensuring that New York’s coastal communities and ecosystems are strengthened to protect their health and viability in the event of future storm devastation.

### Festival of Lights Program

The Festival of Lights will take place on **Wednesday, December 4, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the Student Activities Center, Ballroom A.** This is an intercultural program that celebrates the diversity of religions through the many celebrations that occur during the holiday season. The program highlights various faiths, features holiday displays, ethnic food samplings, holiday crafts and cultural performances. Admission is free and open to the University community.

## **XI. ATHLETICS UPDATE**

Jim Fiore is no longer the Director of Athletics at Stony Brook University. Donna Woodruff, who has served as the Executive Associate Director of Athletics for a number of years, will serve as Interim Athletics Director. A national search to identify a new Athletics Director will begin soon.

### Fall Sports

The fall sports seasons has come to a close. Below are highlights from the season:

- **Women's Cross Country**: Senior Olivia Burne (Palmerston, New Zealand) won the individual title and set a course record at the America East Championship. She became the sixth individual conference champion in Stony Brook women's cross country history. The Seawolves finished in the top three for the 12th straight year with a second-place overall finish. Burne also picked up All-Region honors for the second consecutive year at the NCAA Regionals and received America East All-Academic honors for the third consecutive year.
- **Men's Cross Country**: The team faced tough competition at the America East Championship. The team placed third, just behind the University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC) and Binghamton, respectively.
- **Women's Soccer**: The team finished the regular season as America East Conference co-champions. The season came to an end in the America East Final after a 2-1 loss to UMBC. The co-regular season champions finished the season with an 11-6-2 record. Seven Seawolves earned post-season honors from the Conference. The program was also honored by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA) for its academic performance for the 2012-13 academic year.
- **Men's Soccer**: The team finished the 2013 season with a 6-10-1 overall record. Despite a challenging season, five Seawolves earned end of the year honors from the America East. The team was also honored by NSCAA for its academic performance for the 2012-13 academic year.
- **Volleyball**: The team finished its 2013 season with a fourth place finish and a 15-16 overall record. The team fell in the America East playoffs to top seeded University of New Hampshire. Three Seawolves earned post season Conference honors.

- **Football:** After concluding its first season in the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA), the team finished with an overall record of 5-6, 3-5 in the CAA. In its season closer, the Seawolves beat the Albany Great Danes 24-3 on November 23. Four Seawolves earned all-conference honors.

### Winter Sports

- **Women's Basketball:** Under third year Head Coach Beth O'Boyle, the team is off to a great start. The team is 4-3, with strong wins recorded over New Jersey Institute of Technology, Bradley University, Fairleigh Dickinson and Morgan State. The next game is set for **Wednesday, December 4** at St. Peter's in Jersey City, NJ.
- **Men's Basketball:** Under Head Coach Steve Pikiell, the team is off to a hot start. The team has an overall record of 5-3, including solid wins over Northeastern University, Marist College, Florida Atlantic and a triple overtime thriller against Detroit. Senior Captain Anthony Jackson and Sophomore Jameel Warney are pacing the team so far. The team will take on LaSalle University at Madison Square Garden on **Saturday, December 7 at 11:00 a.m.** For ticket information, please contact the ticket office at (631) 632-4513.

### Second Annual "Stuff-a-Bus" Campaign

In the spirit of giving this holiday season, Stony Brook Athletics is collecting donations of new, unwrapped toys that the department's student-athletes and administrators will deliver to pediatric patients of the Stony Brook Cancer Center during the month of December. All participants who submit a donation will receive a voucher for 2 free tickets to a 2013-2014 Stony Brook women's basketball game. Toys can be dropped off at the Stony Brook Athletics Ticket Office, located in the Indoor Sports Complex, during their normal business hours or during any home basketball game through Tuesday, December 10.