



# Stony Brook University

## 2017 CONVOCATION BIOCHEMISTRY AND BIOLOGY

### Processional

The Saffron Kilts

*(Audience will please rise until all candidates are seated)*

### Welcoming Remarks

Professor J. Peter Gergen  
Department of Biochemistry and Cell Biology

### Convocation Address

Dr. Harry Lander  
BS Biochemistry, BA Chemistry (1987)  
Stony Brook University  
President, Regen BioPharma Inc., San Diego, CA

### Presentation of Awards and Honors

University Awards

Professor J. Peter Gergen  
Department of Biochemistry and Cell Biology

Honors in Biochemistry

Professor Bernadette Holdener  
Department of Biochemistry and Cell Biology

Honors in Biology

Professor Robert Thacker  
Chair, Department of Ecology and Evolution

Irwin Oster Award, Outstanding Research in Genetics

Professor Maurice Kernan  
Department of Neurobiology and Behavior

Outstanding Achievement Awards

Professor J. Peter Gergen  
Department of Biochemistry and Cell Biology

### Student Speaker

Ms. Janki Patel  
BS Biochemistry (2017)

### Presentation of Degree Candidates

Master of Arts in Biological Sciences

Professor Robert Thacker  
Chair, Department of Ecology and Evolution

Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry

Professor Aaron Neiman  
Chair, Department of Biochemistry and Cell Biology

Bachelor of Science in Biology

Professor Simon Halegoua  
Department of Neurobiology and Behavior

### Concluding Remarks

Professor J. Peter Gergen  
Department of Biochemistry and Cell Biology

### Recessional

*(Audience will please rise until platform party and graduates have recessed)*

**Program Participants**

Dr. J. Peter Gergen, Director Undergraduate Biology  
 Dr. Bernadette Holdener, Director Undergraduate Biochemistry  
 Dr. Robert Thacker, Chair, Department of Ecology and Evolution  
 Dr. Maurice Kernan, Department of Neurobiology and Behavior  
 Dr. Aaron Neiman, Chair, Department of Biochemistry and Cell Biology  
 Dr. Simon Halegoua, Department of Neurobiology and Behavior  
 Dr. Harry Lander, Alumni Speaker  
 Ms. Janki Patel, Student Speaker

**Faculty Marshals**

Drs. William F. Collins III, Nancy Hollingsworth, Sarah Malmquist and Matthew Schmidt

**Faculty in Attendance**

Drs. Nurit Ballas, Mei Lin Chan, Neta Dean, Dale Deutsch, Walter Eanes, Susan Erster, Craig Evinger, Berhane Ghebrehwet, Wali Karzai, Cindy Leiton, Jeffrey Levinton, Harvard Lyman, Arianna Maffei, Gerardo Mackenzie, Marvin O'Neal, Sharon Pochron, Jessica Seeliger, Sanford Simon, John True, Jennie Williams, Patricia Wright, Ms Mary Bernero

**Student Banner Bearers**

*Joel Kovoov*, Biology  
*Rebecca Shum*, Biochemistry

**Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence**

*Sonia Joshi*, Biochemistry  
*Gabrielle Khalife*, Biology  
*Joel Kovoov*, Biology

*Rima Madan*, Biology  
*Naveen Mallangada*, Biology  
*Janki Patel*, Biochemistry

*Krista Pullen*, Biology  
*Joselin Vargas*, Biology  
*James Vassallo*, Biology

**Provost's Awards for Academic Excellence**

*Breana Channer*, Biology  
*Rebecca Monastero*, Biochemistry

*Henry Ng*, Biology  
*Rebecca Shum*, Biochemistry

*Jessica Willdigg*, Biology

**University Undergraduate Recognition Awards for Outstanding Achievement**

*Grace Chang*, Biochemistry, Community Service  
*Breana Channer*, Biology, Academic Excellence  
*Mahin Choudhury*, Biology, Academic Excellence  
*Aaron Gochman*, Biology, Academic Excellence  
*Sonia Joshi*, Biochemistry, Academic Excellence,  
 Outstanding Future Alumni Award

*Gabrielle Khalife*, Biology, Leadership  
*Naveen Mallangada*, Biology, Community Service, Bobak  
 Mohavedi Senior Leadership and William J. Sullivan Awards

*Christina Melian*, Biology, Athletics  
*Henry Ng*, Biology, Academic Excellence  
*Janki Patel*, Biochemistry, Academic Excellence  
*Selvin Rose*, Biology, Academic Excellence  
*Kevin Skier*, Biology, Academic Excellence  
*Joselin Vargas*, Biology, Academic Excellence  
*James Vassallo*, Biology, Leadership  
*Nicholas Vollano*, Biology, Leadership  
*Jessica Willdigg*, Biology, Academic Excellence

**Honors in Biochemistry**

*Robert Bruce*  
*Brian Coyne*  
*Jacqueline Doyle*  
*Simran Gupta*  
*Rebecca Monastero*

*John Pfail Jr.*  
*Rebecca Shum*  
*Wei-Chieh Tseng*  
*Jasmine Walker*

**Honors in Biology**

*Jenna Brunette*  
*Mahin Choudhury*  
*Aaron Gochman*  
*Evelyn Kandov*  
*Gabrielle Khalife*

*Rima Madan*  
*Naveen Mallangada*  
*Kennelia Mellanson*  
*Christina Moore*  
*Henry Ng*

*Silvia Salamone*  
*Joselin Vargas*  
*Jessica Willdigg*

**Department Outstanding Achievement Awards****Biochemistry**

*Marissa Alsaloum*  
*Robert Bruce*  
*Jacqueline Doyle*  
*Sonia Joshi*  
*Max Lee*  
*Philip Lee*  
*Alexander McGuiness*  
*Janki Patel*  
*John Pfail Jr.*  
*Michael Salierno*  
*Rebecca Shum*

**Biology Specializations:**

**Bioengineering**  
*Krista Pullen*  
**Developmental Genetics**  
*Jenna Brunette*  
*Catherine D'Addario*  
*Naveen Mallangada*  
*Henry Ng*  
*Diana Rubel*  
*Silvia Salamone*  
*Jessica Willdigg*

**Ecology and Evolution**

*Medha Pandey*  
**Environmental Biology**  
*John Desmond*  
*Erin O'Connor*  
**Neuroscience**  
*Mahin Choudhury*  
*Yoga Kammili*  
*William Signorile*  
*Ruth Tacandong*  
*Harshit Terala*

**Interdisciplinary Biology**

*Mihai Andrecu*  
*Chang Chen*  
*Britney Dhautal*  
*Ahmed Khokhar*  
*Joel Kovoov*  
*Kristy Lee*  
*William Schulz*  
*Kalie Smith*  
*Joselin Vargas*