



MEMORANDUM

**TO:** University Senate  
**FROM:** Samuel L. Stanley Jr., M.D.  
President  
**DATE:** November 3, 2014  
**SUBJECT:** President's Report

**I. EBOLA PREPAREDNESS**

Stony Brook University and Stony Brook University Hospital have been closely monitoring recent developments related to the Ebola Virus Disease (EVD). In light of the recently confirmed Ebola case in New York City, please be advised that while not a statistical impossibility, it is unlikely that a member of our campus community will contract EVD. Nonetheless, the University remains vigilant. Stony Brook University Hospital is one of eight New York State hospitals that have been identified to treat patients with Ebola and great efforts have been made to train, educate, and prepare for the possibility a patient with EVD will seek care. We will continue to update our community with pertinent information. For additional information, visit: <http://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/ebola/index.html>.

**II. NEW YORK STATE CENTER FOR CLEAN WATER TECHNOLOGY TO BE ESTABLISHED AT STONY BROOK**

On October 28, **Governor Andrew M. Cuomo** announced the establishment of the New York State Center for Clean Water Technology at Stony Brook University. The Center will research, develop and commercialize the next generation of technology to remove nitrogen from septic system and cesspool effluent. Governor Cuomo, Suffolk County and Stony Brook University have agreed to designate \$2 million from this year's budget as initial seed money to establish the Center as part of a larger long-term initiative. Our students and faculty are poised to make significant contributions to this most important initiative.

**III. START-UP NY UPDATE**

It was recently announced that six companies have been approved for occupancy at Stony Brook University. These companies are: Guided Interventions, Inc.; Saniteq; GridBridge, Inc.; Killer Content, Inc.; Jasmine Universe, LLC; and Polynova Cardiovascular, Inc. These six companies are expected to not only yield 90 new net jobs, but also expand opportunities for our students.

#### IV. FUNDRAISING UPDATE

Friends and alumni continued to provide generous support in the early months of Fiscal Year 2014/2015. Since July 1, University Advancement has secured more than \$24 million in new gifts and pledges to assist Stony Brook's deserving students, faculty and research efforts. The momentum of Stony Brook University is evident, as many friends and alumni are investing in our future. The following is a brief list of notable commitments to the University over the past two months:

- A \$9 million matching challenge grant from an anonymous donor for Stony Brook Children's Hospital was met when the **Knapp Swezey Foundation** pledged \$2.7 million toward the Children's Hospital
- The University received a generous \$1.9 million gift from an anonymous donor to refurbish the pool
- The Children's Hospital received a \$100,000 gift from **Astoria Federal Savings**
- The **Drs. Dorothy and Martin Spatz Foundation** generously pledged to donate \$100,000 over two years to support scholarships for medical students at Stony Brook Medicine
- **Aaron W. Godfrey** and his wife **Valerie M. Godfrey** established a \$100,000 annuity with Stony Brook – the couple's seventh and largest charitable gift annuity

#### V. 10-YEAR PARTNERSHIP WITH ISLAND FEDERAL CREDIT UNION ANNOUNCED

Stony Brook University and Hauppauge-based Island Federal Credit Union ("Island"), announced a 10-year, \$7 million corporate advertising sponsorship agreement on October 28. This partnership will reach across multiple areas of the University community, including: athletics, the arts, academics, medicine, the Veteran's Home and alumni relations. The agreement provides title sponsorship for the newly renovated 4,000-seat Stony Brook Arena, title sponsorship for the 20-year old Stony Brook Film Festival, partnership in banking education through the Stony Brook University College of Business, benefits to Stony Brook University alumni, as well as support for Stony Brook Medicine programs (including Stony Brook Children's Hospital and the Long Island State Veterans Home). As part of the agreement, Island will invest in an "employee pipeline" – a formal internship program and placement relationship – that will provide undergraduates with learning and recruitment opportunities.

#### VI. DISCOVERY FUND COMPETITION

The first annual Discovery Fund competition was announced over the summer and requested proposals for "basic research that creates new knowledge." Twenty-two proposals were received and reviewed by a panel of six SUNY Distinguished Professors. I'm pleased to announce the four finalists: **Dr. Gábor Balázs**, **Dr. Eden Figueroa**, **Dr. Laurie T. Krug**, and **Dr. Emre Salman** – early-career Stony Brook faculty in the STEM disciplines. These outstanding individuals will present their ideas to a review panel of high profile external judges (to be announced) versed in research, philanthropy, and science communication on **December 11** in New York City. Unique to the Stony Brook award is the aim to further the art of science communication – through the involvement of the actor, director, and writer **Alan Alda**, and the Alan Alda Center for Communicating Science at Stony Brook University.

The Discovery Fund supports pioneering scientific breakthroughs with philanthropic giving to offset declining federal grants for basic research. The Fund was established in the spring of 2014. To learn more about the fund, visit: <http://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/discoveryfund/>.

## **VII. FINISH IN FOUR FUND PILOT PROGRAM**

The Office of Student Financial Aid and Scholarship Services, in conjunction with the Office of Undergraduate Advisement Services, has laid the initial groundwork needed to implement the Finish in Four Fund pilot program. This program will leverage higher four-year graduation rates by providing financial support to students that are in good academic standing and have been allotted the maximum amount of financial aid. This pilot study will kick-off this year and provide up to \$250,000 of support. The efficacy of this program is being assessed by the Office of Institutional Research, Planning & Effectiveness (IRPE).

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

Stony Brook will celebrate Winter Commencement on **Thursday, December 18 in the Island Federal Credit Union Arena**. The ceremony will begin at 11:00 a.m. and confer bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees for summer 2014 and fall 2014 graduates.

## **IX. RECENT UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENT**

### **Dr. Timothy Ecklund Named Dean of Students and Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs**

**Timothy R. Ecklund, Ph.D.**, was appointed Dean of Students and Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs in late October. In this role, Dean Ecklund leads the Dean of Students Office, helps facilitate student success, promotes civility and community, and provides counsel to individual students and student groups. Dean Ecklund is also a member of the University Council. Dean Ecklund joins Stony Brook University after serving as the associate vice president for housing and auxiliary enterprises at SUNY Buffalo State. He brings 30 years of experience in student affairs administration with 14 years of experience as an associate vice president to the position. Ecklund earned a B.A. in Psychology, Elementary Education from the State University of Geneseo, a M.S. in Student Personnel Administration from Buffalo State, and his Ph.D. in Higher Education Administration from the University of Buffalo.

## **X. INAUGURAL TARRSON FAMILY PROFESSOR OF PERIODONTOLOGY INVESTITURE CEREMONY**

**Vincent J. Iacono, D.M.D.**, SUNY Distinguished Service Professor and Chair of the Department of Periodontology, was formally installed as the inaugural Tarrson Family Professor of Periodontology in the School of Dental Medicine during a ceremony on October 30. Dr. Iacono is a nationally recognized leader in periodontology research and education. The Tarrson Family Professorship will be instrumental in building the educational, patient care, basic and translational research endeavors created by the Advanced Specialty Education Program in Periodontics. Named in honor of the late **Bud Tarrson**, an international leader in the dental products industry, the professorship was made possible by the philanthropy of Bud's wife, **Linda Tarrson**, his son **Ronald Tarrson**, and members of the **E. Bud Tarrson Foundation for Dental Research** board. This is the first endowed professorship in the history of the School of Dental Medicine.

## **XI. CHANGES TO WOLFNET-GUEST WI-FI NETWORK**

Visitors to Stony Brook University will be asked to authenticate before using the free WolfieNet-Guest Wi-Fi network for internet access beginning **Thursday, November 6**. Asking guests of Stony Brook to authenticate prior to using our wireless network is a step toward continuing to make Stony Brook a safe and secure cyber environment. Visitors who attempt to connect to WolfieNet-Guest will be prompted to register for temporary access. Access to WolfieNet-Guest will be granted for 72 hours. This will only affect visitors to campus without an active NetID and password. All members of the Stony Brook University community with an active NetID should continue to use WolfieNet-Secure.

## **XII. ZIPCAR NOW OFFERING CAR SHARING SERVICES AT STONY BROOK**

Stony Brook University is now offering the "Zipcar" car-sharing program on main campus. This convenient transportation option is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week for students, faculty, and staff ages 18 and older with a valid drivers' license. Zipcars are available on-demand. For more information, visit: [www.zipcar.com/sbu](http://www.zipcar.com/sbu).

## **XIII. RECENT EVENTS**

### **Carl Bernstein and Bob Woodward Deliver Presidential Lecture**

Visiting Presidential Professor **Carl Bernstein** and his *Washington Post* reporting partner **Bob Woodward** – the legendary duo who cracked the Watergate scandal wide open in 1972 – spoke to an audience that packed the Staller Center for the Arts to capacity on October 16. I had the pleasure of joining these two extraordinary journalist as they discussed, "Looking at the Presidency: From Nixon to Obama," just over 40 years after President Richard Nixon resigned from office.

## Annual Hispanic Heritage Month Celebrated

Hispanic Heritage Month celebrated its 25<sup>th</sup> year at Stony Brook this past October. The month opened on Wednesday, October 1 with an address from the Suffolk County Legislator **Monica R. Martinez**. Events throughout the month included a youth conference and a wonderful performance by the Spanish Harlem Orchestra. An anniversary gala and closing celebration took place on October 24.

## XIV. UPCOMING EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

### Veterans Day Ceremony

This year's Veterans Day Ceremony will take place on **Wednesday, November 5 at 1:00 p.m. in the Student Activities Center (SAC)**. The ceremony is dedicated to the students, alumni, faculty, staff and families who have served or are currently serving in the United States Armed Forces – especially those students that have postponed their education to serve in moments of need. For more information, please call the Office of Veterans and Student Affairs at 632-6700.

### Stony Brook Set to Host TEDx Event

Stony Brook will host its second TEDxSBU in the Charles B. Wang Center Theater on **November 14**. This year's theme is "Connect the Dots" and will feature 16 speakers and performers, which include Stony Brook students, faculty, staff, and alumni. **Dr. Nancy Franklin** will serve as the master of ceremonies. For additional information, visit: <http://tedxsbu.stonybrook.edu/>.

## XV. ATHLETICS UPDATE

### Volleyball

Second year Head Coach Coley Pawlikowski and the women's volleyball team are in the final stretch of the regular season and vying for a spot in the America East Conference Tournament. The team is currently in third place in the conference with 5 remaining matches. The winner of the America East Conference Tournament will earn a bid to the NCAA Tournament.

### Men's Soccer

Head Coach Ryan Anatol and the men's soccer team are positioning themselves for another run in the America East Conference Tournament. With two games remaining in the regular season, the team is hoping to compete in the first round of the playoffs starting on **Saturday, November 8**.

### Football

Head Coach Chuck Priore and the football team have a 3-2 record in the Colonial Athletic Conference (CAA). Their two losses were against the #12 and #4 ranked teams in the nation, William & Mary and the University of New Hampshire, respectively. The Seawolves next home game is on **Saturday, November 8** against James Madison University.

## Men's and Women's Basketball

Both teams will open their seasons during Tip Off Weekend in the newly renovated 4,000 seat Island Federal Credit Union Arena. Head Coach Steve Pikiell and the men's team are picked #1 in the America East preseason poll for the first time and will open on **Friday, November 14** against Ivy League foe Columbia University. The women's team, under first-year Head Coach Caroline McCombs, are picked #2 in the preseason poll and will open on **Saturday, November 15** against St. Peter's University.