Letter from the Vice President for Research

Dear Colleagues,

It's only February, but I want all investigators to be aware of an important change coming this summer. On July 1, we will transition from COEUS to the new Grants module in myResearch for submission of research proposals. "Grants" is one of six modules from Huron's Click suite being implemented across the University to streamline many of the administrative functions that investigators perform as part of their sponsored research. The new Grants module offers much greater functionality and ease of use compared to COEUS, which will cease operation after June 30th. In this newsletter, our Research-IT Team provides a detailed timeline for the transition. I cannot emphasize enough how important it is that PIs remain aware of this timeline — as well as sponsor deadlines — and plan their proposal preparation and submission accordingly. Training for the new online module will be available in May. After the Grants module is live, our attention will turn to the IRB module and an Agreements module, both of which should be implemented over the summer.

Richard Reeder

Every year, the University provides research expenditure data to the National Science Foundation for the Higher Education Research and Development (HERD) Survey. The Office of Institutional Research, Planning and Effectiveness did the heavy lifting this year to compile our FY17 expenditure data for this survey. I am very pleased to report that our total R&D expenditures for FY17 were nearly $239M, a record high for Stony Brook. Notable increases were seen in sponsored awards from NIH and NSF. And for more welcome news, our expenditures for FY18 are on track for continued increase.

This growth in our research enterprise places greater demands on research support units, which have not seen proportional expansion to keep pace. In the last Research Newsletter, I noted that the campus-wide project, Facilitating Researcher Success, was completed in late 2017, and the final report was presented to the President and other senior leadership across the University. Many of the recommendations in this report call for investments that will enable OVPR and other units to provide better support for investigators as our research activity grows. The final report is now available on the FRS webpage. Some recommendations that involve procedural changes are already being implemented. We will update the FRS webpage with these changes as they are completed. As always, your feedback about the effectiveness of the changes, as well as other recommendations, are welcome.

In the next week or so, many PIs will be receiving a request to participate in a Faculty Workload Survey sponsored by the Federal Demonstration Partnership. I encourage you to spend more time to complete this survey. The results are important for informing federal agencies of administrative burdens associated with performing sponsored research. This should be a concern for all of us, especially as we begin to implement changes to reduce administrative hurdles within the University.

As you scan through this newsletter, we hope you'll notice the new format, which is intended to make it easier to view, especially on mobile devices. In an effort to highlight our research beyond the campus community, OVPR has partnered with the Marketing and Communications team to create an email "Research News". This will afford an opportunity to showcase recent research findings from Stony Brook investigators. Distribution for the pilot project will target the research offices of other AAU universities. Stay tuned for further details.

Finally, I encourage you to share comments and concerns with me about any aspects relating to our research infrastructure.

Regards

Richard J. Reeder

Vice President for Research

Upcoming Events

February 28, 2018 at 11:00 AM
Elements of a Budget - On-line Training
Office of Sponsored Programs

Please join OSP's Adobe Connect online live presentation on "Elements of a Budget".

- Summary: Understanding the various cost categories used when building a budget.
- Presented By: Laureen Velez (Laureen.Velez@stonybrook.edu)
- When: 02/28/2018 11:00 AM - 11:45 AM

To join the meeting, click this link.

March 13, 2018 at 9:00 AM
NSF CAREER Award Workshop
Office of Proposal Development

We will kick off OPD's 2018 NSF CAREER award support services by hosting the NSF CAREER Award Proposal Development Workshop on Tuesday, March 13th in Wang Center Lecture Hall 1 with a networking lunch following in Wang Center Zodiac Gallery. Similar to last year, this workshop will cover key topics for preparing a highly competitive CAREER application (e.g., developing an Education Plan, strengthening your Broader Impacts Statement, common mistakes to avoid, etc.). Content will focus on both first-time submissions and re-submissions. All faculty who attend this preliminary workshop will be given priority consideration to receive OPD's comprehensive CAREER award support services.

For more information, or to register, please click here.

March 28, 2018 at 11:00 AM
OVPR New Faculty Research Orientation

As of 2018, we will hold new faculty research orientation twice per year, during the fall and spring semesters. Our first spring new faculty orientation will be held on Wednesday, March 28th from 11:00 AM to 12:45 PM in the Institute for Advanced Computation Sciences (IACS) Seminar Room. A light lunch will be provided. Representatives from all six offices in the OVPR will provide an overview of their services. Topics to include: funding opportunities and proposal development, proposal submission, managing your awards, research compliance, tech transfer and enterprise systems for research administration.

Please register by Friday, March 16th.

For more information, please email OPD_OVPR@stonybrook.edu or call 2-1976.

Ongoing COEUS Training - Every 3rd Friday of the Month
Office of Sponsored Programs

COEUS training classes are available every 3rd Friday of each month. To reserve your spot, please register here. Note that due to the upcoming implementation of myResearch Grants, the last COEUS training class will be held in April 2018. For any additional questions regarding the training classes, please email Anne DePietri or call at extension 2-4702.
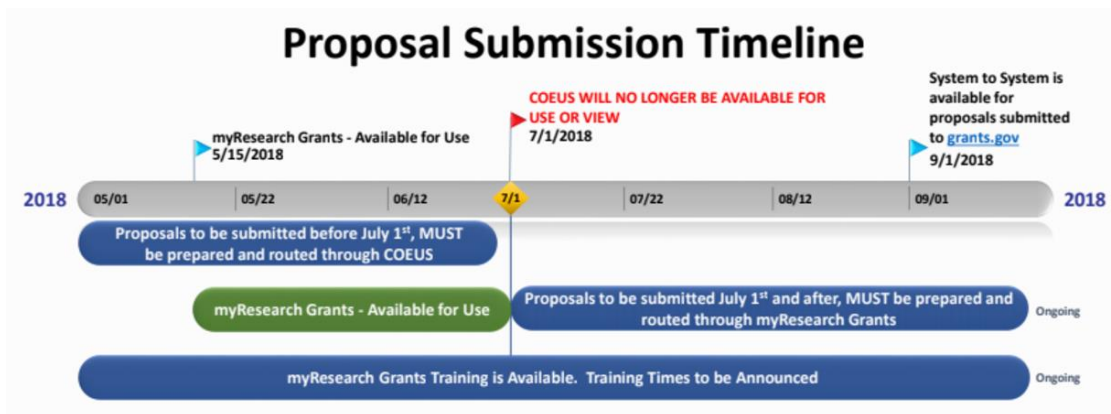
News from Research IT
DoIT Information System (Research)

The Office of Sponsored Programs (OSP) and DoIT Information System (Research) have been working on implementing **myResearch Grants**, which will soon replace **Coeus**.

myResearch Grants is on target to go live in mid-May 2018. In order to prepare for the transition to the new proposal system, please be aware of the following:

Important Dates and Considerations

Coeus Deactivation

- On July 1st, *Coeus* will be discontinued and no longer accessible for either submission or viewing.
- Important documents that are only available for access in *Coeus* need to be downloaded and stored elsewhere.
- In order to provide OSP with a proper phase out, *Coeus* proposals should be submitted by June 22th.

Training Available

- Training on *Coeus* will discontinue at the end of April.
- Regular ongoing training on *myResearchGrants* will start in early May. It will be held in the Frank Melville Jr. Memorial Library twice a week during the months of May and June. Registration will begin mid-April. Information will be shared as we get closer to the registration opening.

More Information

myResearch Implementation Project can be found [here](#).

Detailed communication on the implementation of myResearch Grants will be shared through the OVPR Newsletter, OSP Bulletin and email to Chairs and Deans.

Contacts

Email: ovpr_myresearchgrants@stonybrook.edu

News from OPD

Office of Proposal Development

PIVOT- New Funding Opportunities Database

A major recommendation of the task force on proposal development and funding opportunities was the need to improve our real time access to funding opportunities both federal and non federal, particularly foundations and industry.

The Office of the Vice President for Research is pleased to sponsor a university-wide subscription to PIVOT, by ProQuest. PIVOT is a comprehensive web-based database that encompasses funding opportunities and fellowships from government agencies and philanthropic foundations, as well as industry that span over 80 countries. The subscription will be available to anyone with a stonybrook.edu email address and offers unlimited search criteria. The Office of Proposal Development has started the process of developing profiles for each faculty member using

information that currently exists in the Faculty Profile Database. Our goal is to make the transition from our current Faculty Funding Database to PIVOT seamless so that faculty are able to find new and exciting funding opportunities right away. We will be reaching out to departments to schedule training sessions for faculty and staff. For more information, or to schedule a one-on-one training session, please contact Maureen Piekos, Research Development Specialist in the Office of Proposal Development.

Seed Grant Funding

The Office of Proposal Development has compiled a comprehensive list of all the Seed Grant programs currently available on campus. To view the list, click here.

NSF CAREER Award Services

We are pleased to kick off Office of Proposal Development's 2018 NSF CAREER award support services by hosting the NSF CAREER Award Proposal Development Workshop on Tuesday, March 13th in Wang Center Lecture Hall 1 with a networking lunch following in Wang Center Zodiac Gallery. Similar to last year, this workshop will cover key topics for preparing a highly competitive CAREER application (e.g., developing an Education Plan, strengthening your Broader Impacts Statement, common mistakes to avoid, etc.). Content will focus on both first-time submissions as well as on resubmissions. All faculty who attend this preliminary workshop will be given priority consideration to receive OPD's comprehensive CAREER award support services. For more information or to register, please click here.

News from OTLIR
Office of Technology Licensing and Industry Relations
Exclusive License Agreements

- AJES Life Sciences LLC, a Stony Brook based R&D company, has licensed University patents to develop therapeutics for osteoporosis and other bone-related diseases. Osteoporosis is a debilitating and painful bone disease that affects over 200 million people worldwide and is also responsible for a significant financial burden on healthcare systems each year. These licensed patents cover short peptide(s), discovered in the laboratory of Dr. Srinivas Pentyala and were shown to promote bone matrix production in early preclinical studies.

- Artelo Biosciences, Inc, a public company located San Diego, has licensed two technologies developed by Dr. Iwao Ojima (Department of Chemistry), Dr. Dale Deutsch (Department of Biochemistry and Cell Biology) and Dr. Martin Kaczocha (Department of Anesthesiology) . Dr. Deutsch and Dr. Kaczocha uncovered that endocannabinoid inactivation is modulated by Fatty Acid Binding Proteins (FABPs) which deliver the endocanabinoids from the cell surface to their internal cellular binding proteins. Dr. Ojima has created novel

small molecules, which reversibly bind to FABPs and effectively block the transport of endocannabinoids. Artelo Biosciences will develop the FABPs inhibitors as a treatment for cancer and pain.

News from ORC
Office of Research Compliance

Openness in Research

SUNY Policies prohibit the acceptance of any awards that:

- Restrict dissemination of research results (Document 1800) and/or
- Restrict foreign national participation (Document 1801)

These restrictions apply to both written and verbal agreements with an external entity or sponsor.

Are There Any Exceptions to the Policies?

Requests for justifiable exceptions to this policy, on a case-by-case basis, such as for the purpose of protecting state and national security, must be submitted to the Office of Research Compliance for submission for Chancellor or designee authority's approval.

Any projects that are granted exceptions to these SUNY policies will be further reviewed for the need of a Technology Control Plan and/or export licenses.

International Travel Reminders

Travel to Cuba or Iran for either Stony Brook University travel or personal travel if travelling with Stony Brook University items requires the prior review and approval of the Export Control Officer in the Office of Research Compliance. Please contact Susan Gasparo

For any international travel, if you are taking items, technology or non-published information with you when you travel, please review the International Travel Guidance.

Important Updates and Reminders to our Human Research Protection Program (HRPP)

The following are important Updates and Reminders to our HRPP. Please review them carefully!

I. Effective and Compliance Dates of the Revised Common Rule have been postponed to July 2018 (at least)

See the federal register here, and note: "Federal departments and agencies listed in the Interim Final Rule (IFR) are also in the process of developing a notice of proposed rule making (NPRM) seeking public comment on a proposal for further delay in the required implementation of the revised Common Rule (for example, until January 21, 2019)."

We will continue to monitor the situation, while concurrently working toward an easy transition for implementation of the new rule requirements when compliance with the final rule becomes required.

II. January 25th marks the implementation date for the new NIH single IRB Policy

As we have been advising you for some time now, this sIRB Policy affects multi-site studies involving non-exempt human subjects research funded by NIH, and applies to grant applications with due dates on or after January 25, 2018 and R&D contracts in response to solicitations issued on or after January 25, 2018.

A new Special Topics Section to our updated Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) (see section IV below) has been added that addresses the process for IRB Reliances and NIH sIRB here at SBU. If you have any questions about relying on an external IRB, or about having SBU be the IRB of record, for multi-site studies, please contact Lu-Ann Kozlowski, phone 631-632- 9036.

For more information and resources directly from NIH, please click here.

III. Reminder: IRB Approval does NOT mean Approval to Begin your Study!

IRB approval is just one aspect of complying with institutional requirements for the conduct of human research. Ancillary reviews and approvals are required before the commencement of studies using the facilities and patients of University Hospital, involving reviewers responsible for sign-off in the following areas:

- Pathology
- Research Pharmacy
- Radiology
- Privacy/Security (HIPAA)
- Hospital Finance/Billing Chair of PI's department
- Use of research-related radiation
- Use of surgical pathology or cytology specimens

IV. Our HRPP Standard Operating Procedures have been Updated!

For the past year, we have been preparing for our second re-accreditation with the Association for the Accreditation of Human Research Protection Programs (AAHRPP), and as a result, our SOPs have been extensively reviewed and updated.

We have posted them at this time as a single pdf here, but will create a more user-friendly format to allow for easy navigating in the near future. Please refer to these SOPs often to ensure the compliant conduct of your research activities.
Some of the more substantive changes you will notice:

1. Revisions to reflect the changes in FDA and NIH regulations over the past few years (and sent to you via this mailing and/or in Research News) including, e.g., the NIH GCP training requirement, allowance of FDA waiver of consent for minimal risk research, NIH single IRB requirement, etc.)

2. Revisions to reflect the (impending) move from IRBNet to Click as our IRB electronic management system.

3. Detailed SOPs on IRB reliance arrangements in Multi-site Research (see, in particular, Section17.16)

4. Section 3.8.2.1 ('Recruitment of Subjects') identifies that SBU participates in ResearchMatch (see new section 17.13) and confirms that, when recruiting patients as potential subjects, first contact must be made by someone who has a relationship (e.g., treatment etc.) with the patient; This policy protects the patient's right to privacy.

5. Section 5.2 ('Definitions' within the 'Obtaining Informed Consent' section) provides greater detail, per the NYS Family Health Care Decisions Act, regarding the definition of a legally authorized representative who can give permission as a surrogate (in instances where an adult cannot consent for themselves).

6. Section 5.7 ('Documentation of Informed Consent') adds that, when using the short form procedure: In addition to receiving a copy of the (English) summary and a copy of the short form at the time of consenting, the subject must receive a copy of the summary, translated into their native language, as soon as possible after their enrollment into the study.

7. Extensive revision to Section 7.5 ('Responsibilities for FDA-regulated Research') to be clear regarding responsibilities of FDA regulated Clinical Investigators as well as responsibilities of those investigators who are also sponsors of INDs and IDE's: see in particular Section 7.5.1.4 ('Additional Responsibilities When the Clinical Investigator is also the Sponsor of the IND or IDE ["Sponsor-Investigator"]') and support services now available for Sponsor-Investigators (Section 7.5.1.5)

8. Section 14 (Conflicts of Interest in Research) was revised to reflect the new annual disclosure process utilizing the electronic myResearch program.

9. Section 17.4 ('Registration of Clinical Trials') clarifies which research activities are subject to the clinicaltrials.gov registration requirement.

10. New Special Topics for:

    1. Genomic Data Sharing (GDS) for NIH Grant Submissions (Section 17.12);

    2. ResearchMatch as a Recruitment Tool (Section 17.13);

    3. Conducting Research in a Clinical Setting (e.g., University Hospital): Special Considerations (Section 17.14);

    4. Additional Requirements for Studies Funded by the Department of Defense (Section 17.15);

   5. IRB Reliance/Single IRB (sIRB) Review (Section 17.16)

If you have any questions about the information provided above, or any aspect of our human research protection program, feel free to contact Margaret.Mcnurlan at 631-632-9036.

News from OSP
Office of Sponsored Programs

OSP Monthly Bulletin registration

As mentioned in the fall issue of the OVPR Newsletter, starting November 2017, our office has launched a monthly Bulletin which is used as a tool to communicate additional OSP news, reminders and updates with the research community. The Bulletin is disseminated on an opt in basis through subscription to our listserv. Anyone interested can register at any time. Earlier releases can be viewed here.
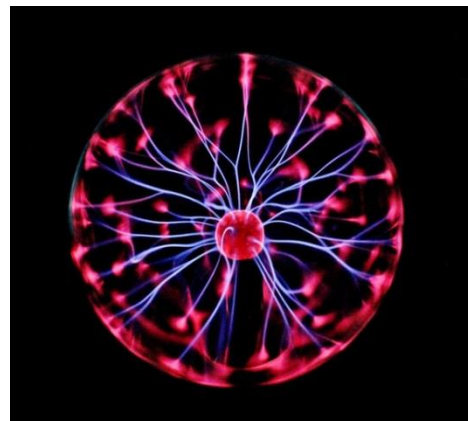
Grants.gov Workspace - Reminder to register now!

On December 31, 2017, Grants.gov retired its legacy, downloadable PDF application packages and applications are now required to be submitted through Grants.gov Workspace, a shared, online environment where multiple users can simultaneously work on different forms within an application package.

This does not apply to proposals submitted through NSF Fastlane, NIH ASSIST, or NASA NSPIRES.

Each user must register as an Organization Applicant using DUNS 804878247.

NSF Updates

NSF Proposal and Award Policy Newsletter
The newest edition of NSF's Proposal & Award Policy Newsletter can be found here.
Please note an important change in this edition. Besides updates on many topics, NSF has included a new Proposal and Award Policies and Procedures Guide (PAPPG) effective January 29, 2018.

Significant changes include:

- The addition of an eligibility subcategory for international branch campuses of U.S. Institutions of Higher Education;
- The eligibility standards for foreign organizations has been revised;
- The standard Collaborators and Other Affiliations (COA) template which had been in a pilot phase since April has been implemented;
- The Budget Justification page limitation has been increased from 3 to 5 pages;
- The Project Description must now contain a separate section specifically identified as "Intellectual Merit";
- A restructuring of coverage on grantee notifications and requests for approval from NSF, including referral to the Prior Approval Matrix available on the NSF website.

NIH Updates

The NIH Extramural Nexus

The *NIH Extramural Nexus* provides regular updates on NIH grants policies and activities that impact the entire grants community.

In addition to providing the community with news, events and resources, the Nexus is the home of Open Mike - the blog of Dr. Michael Lauer, who serves as NIH's Deputy Director for Extramural Research and directs the Office of Extramural Research.

The *Nexus* offers NIH the opportunity to help the scientific community gain a better understanding of NIH grants issues and current happenings that affect the extramural community as a whole.

A Monthly View link allows access to articles listed by month. The latest NIH Extramural Nexus Updates for December 2017 and January 2018 are now available.   Some highlights include:

- Further Refining Case Studies and FAQs about the NIH Definition of a Clinical Trial in Response to Your Questions
- Two Years (or so) of "Open Mike
- Assuring the Integrity of Peer Review
- The Importance of Timely Grant Closeout
- When a Country is Open, Do They Have Strong Science Too?
- Reminder: Changes for January 25, 2018 Application Due Dates
- New Electronic Submission Requirement for Diversity Supplements
- Tips for Describing Human Subjects Studies in Multi-project Applications
- Why Attend the Spring 2018 NIH Regional Seminar in Washington, DC
- Due Dates on Holidays/Weekends/NIH Office Closures

- [Two New "All About Grants" Podcasts: 2018 Appendix Policy Changes, and Why We Encourage You to Submit Your Application Early](#)
- [What is "Delayed Onset"?](#)
- [Which Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) Should I Use if My Human Subject Research Study is Delayed Onset?](#)

Additional details on a **NIH Changes its Definition of Clinical Trial** and **Diversity Supplements Submission requirements** can be found in the [January 2018 issue](#) of the OSP Bulletin.

News from HRS
Human Resource Services

New York Paid Family Leave Program

Starting January 1, 2018, the New York State Paid Family Leave (PFL) program will provide Research Foundation employees job protected paid leave to bond with a new child, care for a loved one with a serious health condition, or help relieve family pressures when someone is called to active military service. This benefit is paid for by employees through payroll deductions and is not optional for most employees.

The PFL will phase in over the next few years:

- 2018 - An eligible employee will receive 50% of their average weekly wage for up to eight weeks.
- 2019 - An eligible employee will receive 55% of their average weekly wage for up to ten weeks.
- 2020 - An eligible employee will receive 67% of their average weekly wage for up to twelve weeks.

The average weekly wage payable during a qualified leave is capped at the New York State average weekly wage which is currently $1,305.92.

For more information on the Paid Family Leave program, please contact the HRS Benefits Department at [(631) 632-6180](#).

Minimum Wage Increase

As of December 31, 2017, the minimum wage for Long Island increased to $11 per hour and the minimum wage for New York City increased to $13 per hour. See the chart below for future scheduled increases to the minimum wage.

Location	12/31/17	12/31/18	12/31/19	12/31/20	12/31/21
NYC	$13.00	$15.00			
Long Island & Westchester	$11.00	$12.00	$13.00	$14.00	$15.00
Greater New York	$10.40	$11.10	$11.80	$12.50	TBD

Research Project Assistants - A Reminder

Last May, Richard Reeder and Chuck Taber advised PIs that the Research Foundation of SUNY and the Communication Workers of America, Local 1104, reached an agreement with regard to the Research Project Assistants' Collective Bargaining Agreement. They noted that Research Project Assistants would receive a biweekly increase of $11.54 to their 2017-2018 academic stipend. This increase was processed for the paycheck dated February 2, 2018. For the 2018-2019 academic year, Research Project Assistants are scheduled to receive an increase of $7.69 to their biweekly stipend.

Post Doc Hiring

Human Resource Services receives a number of questions about the search and selection of post-doctoral associates and senior post-doctoral associates. These are unique positions and we recognize the need for a streamlined hiring process and the importance of providing options for PIs. To accelerate the hiring process, assist in outreach and to provide an immediate applicant pool, Human Resource Services places a Post Doc Omnibus Ad. scheduled to run in the Spring post doc edition of Science and Fall post doc editions of Science and Nature, the omnibus ad promotes post doc opportunities while directing applicants to postings listed on the University's JOBS page. There is no cost to the departments, the ad eliminates delays in hiring by providing a mechanism to continuously collect resumes, ensuring a ready and immediate applicant pool. An ad in Science will be appearing in the January 26th print issue and 8 weeks on the Science careers website. All departments are encouraged to post their opportunities to the University website whether or not they have secured specific funding at this time. For immediate assistance contact Donna Kossack in HRS Recruitment at (631) 632-1702.

2018 Tax Information and Supplemental Retirement Contribution Limit Update

The following is provided for your information. Tax questions may be referred to RF Payroll at 631-632-6162. Questions regarding contribution limits may be referred to HRS Benefits at 631-632-6180.

- The Social Security tax withholding rate is unchanged at 6.2%. The Social Security tax wage base has increased to $128,400.
- The Medicare tax withholding rate remains the same at 1.45% with no limit on the Medicare wage base. Generally those employees that earn at least $200,000 will have an additional 0.9% withheld after $200,000.
- Tax "exemption" of employer paid "qualified" moving expense reimbursements are suspended until 2026. As a result all moving expense reimbursements to an employee will be subject to applicable taxes.
- The IRS maximum contributions for TDA or SRA accounts, or for the New York State Deferred Compensation plan, have been increased to $18,500 per year. Those who are 50 years of age or older may contribute an additional $6,000 per year.

Employees wanting to make changes to their tax withholdings or to update their contribution amounts may do so through Employee Self Service.

News from OGM
Office of Grants Management

Campus Wide OVPR Generated Salary Offset Transactions -Implementation Delayed

It has been determined that launch of the OVPR generation of Salary Offset Transactions, (IFR) should be delayed until after the implementation of myResearch Grants.

The OVPR has been providing this service to the School of Medicine Departments for more than eight years and it has proven to reduce administrative effort on the part of Principal Investigators and their staff, as well as ensuring that the university is compliant with the expectations of federal funding agencies with respect to committed effort for research awards.

Once myResearch Grants is implemented, the OVPR will provide guidance regarding this process, with an outline of the procedure for this important service improvement and campus wide process.

New Awards

For a list of all new awards between October 15th 2017 to January 14th 2018, please click here Congratulations to all the investigators.

Note: only awards funded with a total amount of $50,000 or greater are listed.

Contact
To connect with a member of the
OVPR Communications team, please email:
ovpr_communications@stonybrook.edu

Find us on the Web

www.stonybrook.edu/research