



TO: University Senate

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DATE: May 1, 2023

SUBJECT: EVPHS/CEO Report

ACADEMIC UPDATES

Center for Healthy Aging Announced

The [Center for Healthy Aging](#) (CHA) was officially announced this past month. The goal of the CHA is to promote healthy aging and extend both physical and mental well-being through innovative research solutions. Stony Brook is a leading institution in aging research, with a collective \$23 million in research funding from the National Institutes of Health, National Science Foundation and other sources. Paired with one of the country's largest academic geriatric practices, an Age-Friendly Health System and the [Stony Brook Center of Excellence for Alzheimer's Disease](#), Stony Brook is optimally positioned to improve the understanding and treatment of age-related conditions.

The CHA is a collaboratory, promoting the organization and coordination of this significant expertise and infrastructure at Stony Brook Medicine (SBM), including the five Health Sciences Schools and the Program in Public Health, Stony Brook University (SBU), as well as affiliated institutions such as the Northport VA and the Long Island State Veterans Home. Initially funded by the Stony Brook University Presidential Innovation and Excellence Fund, the CHA fits into the missions of both SBM and SBU of patient care, education, research and community service. Through its unifying goal, the CHA will coordinate aging research on campus, promote bidirectional interactions between researchers in aging and geriatricians, and transform the care of the aging population in Suffolk County and beyond.

Renaissance School of Medicine Shines at NEGEA

The Renaissance School of Medicine had an excellent showing at the recent meeting of the Association of American Medical Colleges' (AAMC) Northeast Group on Educational Affairs (NEGEA). Dr. Wei-Hsin Lu, Senior Education Specialist and Research Assistant Professor of Preventive Medicine earned the 2023 NEGEA Distinguished Educators Award. RSOM had 11 poster presentations and 3 oral presentations by residents and medical students in their second and third year. Sijia Ma, a second-year medical student, earned an award for her outstanding project, Diagnostic Errors in Preclinical Medical Students. Stony Brook's contributions to the conference were second only to the hosting institution, the University of Vermont, Larner SOM.

School of Nursing hosts 13th Annual Scholarship and Awards Ceremony

The SON held its 13th annual Scholarship and Awards Ceremony April 19, 2023 in the Wang Center. In total, 24 undergraduate, 18 master's, 5 doctoral students received awards and scholarships. Additionally, 4 student veterans and 2 distinguished alumni were recognized.

School of Health Professions Hosts Two Interprofessional Education Events

The School of Health Professions hosted two events dedicated to Interprofessional Education (IPE), a critical area of student interdisciplinary learning and research. First, more than 300 students participated in the school's Interprofessional Education Day, which explored the different roles and responsibilities among members of the healthcare team. Students cooperated on a case study that focused on Values and Ethics for Professional Practice, a core IPE competency.

The School also hosted Pediatric IPE Day: Rare Disease Conditions, an all-day event with guest speaker Avery Roberts, a 15 year-old with Congenital Muscular Dystrophy. The event explored the developmental diagnosis through the lens of impact and assessment, and diagnosis and implications for treatment from perspectives of Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Physician Assistant, and Speech-Language Pathology. Students created a combined 'Fact Sheet' on an assigned unique pediatric diagnosis, supported by current scientific research to be presented to classmates and related health professionals. Pediatric IPE Day was organized by faculty members Agnes McConlogue Ferro, Kristin Thompson, Elisabel Chang, and Dale Coffin.

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging Efforts at the School of Medicine

The Renaissance School of Medicine has engaged in a broad array of outreach efforts related to Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging. Student chapters of SNMA, LMSA, and BMWX continued outreach activities with high school students. The School's Black Men in White Coats (BMWC) chapter is continuing planning for its Careers in Medicine Summit for high school students interested in medicine and undergraduate premedical students, scheduled for Fall 2023. The Stony Brook HOME clinic continued patient care and community health information presentations to support vulnerable communities; hosted the SB HOME Gala celebrating its 16th year; and continued its undergraduate clinical experience program (UCEP), which provides professional mentoring and clinical exposure to undergraduate students who need assistance in establishing path to becoming a professional. Planning is ongoing for the Pre-Medical Access to the Clinical Experience (PACE) program, which provides a yearlong curriculum that includes MCAT prep and writing a personal statement. The School will work with a university advisory committee on developing a five-year plan on DEIB activities and goals and build towards a potential grant opportunity looking at Long COVID and its impact on vulnerable communities.

School of Health Professions Hosts Successful Admitted Students Day

The School of Health Professions was delighted to partner with Undergraduate Admissions for Admitted Students Day. In an effort to showcase all that the Health Sciences have to offer, SHP participated with the West Campus for the morning showcasing our undergraduate and graduate



programs. In the afternoon the School of Health Professions participated with the School of Nursing for an on-site event, welcoming over 100 admitted students and their families. Dr. Stacy Jaffee Gropack, Dean of SHP, and Dr. Carol Della Ratta, School of Nursing Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Strategic Partnerships, presented on “Finding your Passion in Healthcare” to packed lecture halls. An amazing team of current student volunteers guided the visitors, over 100 students and families, on tours of labs and classrooms. It was our pleasure to give Stony Brook’s admitted students the space to speak with faculty, staff, and current students as they consider our university, as well as possibilities in healthcare careers.

Pat Bruckenthal Elected President of the NYS Council of Deans

Pat Bruckenthal, Dean of the School of Nursing, has been elected President of the New York State Council of Deans. The organization, comprising more than 60 member institutions, is dedicated to identifying issues, sharing ideas and experiences, and discussing matters that affect baccalaureate and higher degree programs.

Christina Burke Selected as Task Force Co-Chair by ANPT

Christina Burke, PT, DPT, MS, a Clinical Associate Professor in Physical Therapy, was selected by the Academy of Neurological Physical Therapy to co-Chair the Movement System - Balance Diagnoses Knowledge Translation Taskforce, which will disseminate and implement resources and tools designed to aid in the movement system diagnoses for balance dysfunction.

Jessica Rotolo Receives CASE Virginia Carter Smith Scholarship

Jessica Rotolo, MA, Director of Accreditation and Outreach, was chosen as one of 25 recipients to receive the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) Virginia Carter Smith Scholarship, granted to those who demonstrate considerable promise and potential as an educational advancement professional. CASE is the global non-profit membership association dedicated to providing leadership and support to more than 90,000 educational advancement professionals who work in alumni relations, communications, development, marketing, and advancement services, and who share the common goal of championing education to transform lives and society. Stony Brook University is an institutional member of CASE.

Renaissance School of Medicine Recognizes Three Distinguished Professors

The School of Medicine recognized three new Distinguished Professors:

- Dr. Bettina Fries, Medicine
- Dr. Richard Mathias, Physiology and Biophysics
- Dr. Sharon Nachman, Pediatrics



SHP Hosts Annual Outstanding Alumni Awards Presentation and Reception

The School of Health Professions honored and awarded seven alumni for their distinguished careers and the difference they have made in their respective fields:

Tiffany Channer '07, Clinical Laboratory Sciences
Phyllis Lepre Reischmann '83, Physical Therapy
Jaime F. Rogers, Jr '00, Respiratory Care
Michael Roff '21, Occupational Therapy
Anupama Walia '09, Health Science
Lisa White '87, Athletic Training
Christopher Xikis '03 Physician Assistant

CLINICAL UPDATES

Patient Access

There are many efforts underway to help improve patient access including a “One-Stop Shopping” development of a Centralized Contact Center. SBM is also working to improve the Digital Front Door by working to implement online appointment scheduling and expanding telehealth services as a 24/7 service, and creating a centralized provider recruitment infrastructure to help with talent acquisition. Recruitment is a particular concern for our East End hospitals where the high cost of living makes it difficult to attract medical and support staff.

Lake Grove Update

Phase 1 for Stony Brook Medicine’s new Ambulatory Center at Lake Grove is expected to open May through June and includes Pediatrics, Internal Medicine, Family Population and Preventive Medicine, Neurology, Comprehensive Pain Center, Hospital Based Services – Genetics, Nutrition, and Neuropsychology.

Hospital Curtain Wall

The replacement of the hospital curtain wall is underway. Due to age and deterioration, the black curtain wall on the SBUH bed towers are being replaced. A selection of a new glass exterior will match the MART and Children’s Hospital. The project is expected to be completed in four years. In the meantime, a plan is underway to address the same deterioration issue facing the Health and Basic Science Towers.

East End Hospitals

The Stony Brook Eastern Long Island Hospital and Stony Brook Southampton Hospital Joint Advisory Committees continue to focus on staff recruitment, an area in which Dr. Todd Griffin has

already done substantial work. Fundraising is underway for a new hospital on the Southampton campus and SBM will soon break ground on an emergency satellite facility in East Hampton.

Searches and Recruitment

- Chief Communications and Marketing Officer: Tim Brown joined Stony Brook Medicine on April 13th. Tim has over 30 years of marketing and communications experience including marketing campaigns, strategic media relations, and ability to effectively communicate complex healthcare and social issues.
- Interim Medical Director of Innovation: Dr. Erin Hulfish has been appointed the SBM Interim Medical Director of Innovation reporting to the Chief Strategy Officer and Chief Information Officer. Dr. Hulfish will be working with senior executives and is responsible for the implementation of the strategic direction of programmatic and personnel activities for telemedicine and digital initiatives including digital innovative initiatives such as patient engaging technology to achieve measurable outcomes and derive innovative insights.
- Cancer Center Director: Chaired by Dr. Bill Wertheim, the search committee have identified three strong candidates who will be visiting campus over the next few weeks.
- Chief Administrative Officer, SB Southampton Hospital: A search will soon be underway.

Strategic Planning and Transformation

A third strategic planning retreat was held in March under the leadership of Liz Popwell, Chief Strategy & Transformation Officer. Attendees offered feedback on initial results for a survey sent to all SBM staff to gather input on Mission and Vision. Excellent progress is being made towards meeting the summer deadline to share the results of the strategic planning initiative. This process has included input from all aspects of the academic, research, clinical care, and community perspective, as well as business partnership meetings to determine how to best advance SBM's vision. Four Objectives and twelve Initiatives have been identified and executive sponsors are finalizing goals and implementation plans. For example, internal and external assessments are being conducted to explore evolving the Program in Public Health into an accredited School of Public Health. Future updates will address how the leadership team is working to align resources and goals to meet exciting challenges.

Addressing Health Equity

Stony Brook Medicine is addressing health equity in a variety of ways. A Health Equity Steering Committee was formed which is addressing patient needs assessments associated with social determinants of health. Additionally, SBM is working with community organizations to provide resources to those who are screened in for key social drivers of health. As an initial approach, patients are being screened for food insecurities and the hospital has created a food pantry to provide assistance for our patients in need. We are partnering with community outreach programs to provide supplemental resources for those in need. Both Stony Brook Southampton Hospital and Stony Brook Eastern Long Island Hospital are providing similar resources for patient populations on the North Fork and South Fork.



Health Sciences Vaccination Requirements

Last week a reminder was sent to staff and faculty about the COVID vaccine requirement for health sciences students. Stony Brook Medicine continues to enforce the applicable New York State Department of Health and Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services mandates requiring vaccination against COVID-19 for students, volunteers, faculty and staff in its hospitals and healthcare facilities. The COVID-19 vaccination requirements also cover students enrolled in Health Sciences schools. Students enrolled in any program or course or who are participating in a clinical placement or internship held at a third-party location must continue to comply with all health and safety guidelines, including any COVID vaccination or testing protocols that are in place at the third-party site. All students enrolled in Health Sciences schools must have received a COVID-19 vaccine unless they have a medical exemption or religious accommodation.

ADDITIONAL SBM NEWS

[Stony Brook Medicine Featured at 2023 Port Jeff Health & Wellness Fest](#)

Hundreds of locals explored more than a dozen Stony Brook Medicine services at the Greater Port Jefferson Chamber of Commerce's 14th annual Health & Wellness Fest. Stony Brook Medicine was the featured sponsor of the event, which aims to promote health and well-being among residents of all ages. More than 70 tables of vendors, demos and health screenings filled the ballrooms at the Meadow Club in Port Jefferson Station on Saturday, April 22.

[Harold Paz Appointed to National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine ALS Committee](#)

Harold "Hal" Paz, MD, MS, has been appointed to the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis: Accelerating Treatments and Improving Quality of Life committee. Paz, Executive Vice President for Health Sciences at Stony Brook University and the Chief Executive Officer at Stony Brook University Medicine, will conduct a study to identify and recommend key actions for the public, private and nonprofit sectors to undertake to make amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) a livable disease within a decade.

[Dr. Dorothy Lane Receives 2023 Ronald Davis Special Recognition Award](#)

Dorothy Lane, MD, MPH, SUNY distinguished service professor; vice chair of the Department of Family, Population and Preventive Medicine; and associate dean for Continuing Medical Education in the Renaissance School of Medicine, has received the 2023 Ronald Davis Special Recognition Award from the American College of Preventive Medicine (ACPM). She is a founding member of the faculty of Stony Brook's medical school, which she joined in August 1971. With approximately 2,000 members, the ACPM is composed of board-certified preventive medicine specialists devoted to saving lives, fostering healthier communities and improving healthcare systems across the country. The Ronald Davis Special Recognition Award acknowledges an individual who has made exceptional contributions to the field of preventive medicine.