



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** University Senate

**FROM:** Maurie McInnis, President

**DATE:** December 5, 2022

**SUBJECT:** President's Report

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### UNIVERSITY NEWS

#### **SBU AWARDED \$6.5M GRANT TO BUILD A NEW QUANTUM INTERNET TEST BED**

Stony Brook University has been awarded a \$6.5 million grant from the Long Island Investment Fund to construct a new Quantum Internet Test Bed, part of \$46.5 million in grants for three regional projects announced by New York State Governor Kathy Hochul on November 29. This money will be added to the over \$10 million investment from the Stony Brook Presidential Innovation and Excellence Fund and will support the next evolution in quantum mechanics. The \$350 million Long Island Investment Fund, included as part of Governor Hochul's FY 2023 Enacted Budget, focuses on projects that will support and grow the regional economy, enhance communities, and have lasting economic impacts across Long Island.

#### **SBU LAB RECEIVES NIH FUNDING FOR RESEARCH ON PREVENTING FUTURE PANDEMICS**

The Laboratory for Comparative Medicine (LCM) at the Renaissance School of Medicine at Stony Brook University has received a \$3 million grant from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) for facility upgrades and new instrumentation to support advanced research on virulent and emerging pathogens. The grant was in response to a call for "Emergency Awards: Biocontainment Facility Improvements and Building System Upgrades to Support Pandemic Preparedness" from the NIAID. The one-time NIH funding allotment will help support research on the COVID-19 pandemic and future investigations centering on antiviral programs, antimicrobial approaches and therapeutic measures to prevent or mitigate infectious disease outbreaks or future pandemics.

#### **RENAISSANCE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE JOINS REGIONAL MEDICAL SCHOOL CONSORTIUM**

The Renaissance School of Medicine at Stony Brook University will be part of a new medical school consortium in the New York metro region to train young scientists in kidney, urology and hematology research. **Dr. Sandeep Mallipattu** co-leads the newly formed consortium.

The medical research training initiative, called the New York Consortium for Interdisciplinary Training in Kidney, Urological, and Hematological Research (NYC Train KUHR), is supported by a five-year \$6.6 million grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The Renaissance School

of Medicine will co-lead this program to provide an opportunity to graduate students and post-doctoral clinical and research fellows for NIH-sponsored research training in these disciplines. Albert Einstein College of Medicine (co-lead and the NIH site contact) will partner with Stony Brook, along with the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai and Columbia University Irving Medical Center.

### **INDIVIDUAL ACCOLADES**

#### **NIKITA NEKRASOV AWARDED 2023 DANNIE HEINEMAN PRIZE FOR MATHEMATICAL PHYSICS**

Nikita Nekrasov, a professor at Stony Brook University's Simons Center for Geometry and Physics and the C.N. Yang Institute for Theoretical Physics, has been awarded the 2023 Dannie Heineman Prize for Mathematical Physics by the American Institute of Physics (AIP) and the American Physical Society (APS). Professor Nekrasov received the prestigious prize "for the elegant application of powerful mathematical techniques to extract exact results for quantum field theories, as well as shedding light on integrable systems and non-commutative geometry."

#### **BARRY BARISH AWARDED COPERNICUS PRIZE FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO SCIENCE**

Barry Barish, a world renowned experimental physicist and Nobel Laureate who will be joining Stony Brook University as the inaugural President's Distinguished Endowed Chair in Physics, has been awarded the Copernicus Prize, bestowed by the government of Poland on "those who made exceptional contributions to the development of world science." Dr. Barish will receive the prize from the Polish Ministry of Education and Science at the World Copernican Congress to be held in Toruń, Poland, February 19-21, 2023, celebrating the 550th birthday of Nicolaus Copernicus. Dr. Barish, a distinguished professor of physics and astronomy at University of California Riverside, will join Stony Brook in Fall 2023. He shared the 2017 Nobel Prize in Physics for the observation of gravitational waves with the historic Laser Interferometer Gravitational-wave Observatory (LIGO) experiment. This research proved the ripples in the fabric of space and time that were predicted by Albert Einstein 100 years earlier. He is also the Ronald and Maxine Linde Professor of Physics, Emeritus, at the California Institute of Technology.

#### **SBU POLICE OFFICERS RECEIVE 2022 SUNY UNIVERSITY POLICE AWARDS**

Fifteen Stony Brook University police officers are recipients of the SUNY 2022 University Police Awards, the highest recognition by the SUNY Police Chiefs Association. The annual awards honor lieutenants, officers and staff for their heroic efforts and bravery on campus as well as their professionalism. The following awards were presented to Stony Brook University Police:

- **The Life Saving Award** is presented to any member of the New York State University Police who directly aids in saving someone's life. This year's awardees include **Lieutenant David Bratisax** and **Officers Jasmin Agha, Bettina Bubb, Darrell Goens, Daniel Pilero and Pasquale Primerano**.
- **The Heroism Award** recognizes members for acts of exceptional bravery performed at very high risk to their own lives with full awareness of the danger involved. This year's honor was awarded to **Officer Frank Mendyk**.
- **The Professional Service Award** recognizes members for acts that greatly enhance the operation of their respective University Police Departments. This year's awardees are **Senior Investigator Stephen Kiefer, Inspector Kathleen Galvin, and Officers Joseph Bica Jr., Curtis Hoover, Jared King, Scott Rodriguez, Peter Thomson and Dawn Whitmarsh**.

## **STUDENT AFFAIRS UPDATE**

The 5th Annual Light the Brook, sponsored by the Undergraduate Student Government, lit up the Academic Mall in celebration of our campus community and the holiday season. This year's event, held at the Staller Steps, had the largest attendance since its inception and included several student performances.

Stony Brook University has been recognized for its civic engagement efforts as an ALL IN Most Engaged Campus for College Student Voting.

The Veterans Day Ceremony honored those who served in the armed forces. This is the first year both the keynote speaker (Joan Furey, RN, MA, US Army veteran) and the student speaker (Chloe Mack' 23, US Army veteran) were female veterans.

Student Affairs hosted the annual LICSPA (Long Island Council of Student Personnel Administrators) Conference on November 11, which included over 150 participants from various NYC and LI higher education institutions. The conference was a great success, and ended with a reception at the new UNITI Cultural Center.

As of November 28, TimelyCare, our 24/7 telehealth service for students, has reached over 1,600 total visits, including scheduled counseling and medical, on-demand medical and counseling and health coaching. In addition, the service has received rave reviews: the average visit rating for scheduled counseling is 4.88/5 and for scheduled medical is 4.9/5.

## **ADVANCEMENT UPDATE**

Since the start of the 2023 fiscal year, \$16.3 million has been generously pledged or contributed by more than 3,020 donors. Their investments in our students, research, healthcare and campus programs provide critical support, helping to elevate the University.

Generous contributions since the last update include:

- \$222,000 in unrestricted support for the Computer Science Department
- \$120,000 gift to the Computer Science Department for Generative Adversarial Networks (GANs) research
- \$100,000 pledge to the Pediatric Emergency Expansion Fund
- \$100,000 pledge to the Department of Neurology for stroke research
- \$72,000 gift to the Chemistry Department

## **ATHLETICS UPDATE<sup>1</sup>**

Stony Brook Athletics announced the addition of Dr. Danielle Merolla as the department's inaugural Director of Athletics Mental Health Services at Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS), effective November 28, a shared role between CAPS and Athletics.

Freshman outside hitter Kali Moore became the first student-athlete in program history to claim a CAA major award as she was named the league's Volleyball Rookie of the Year. In addition,

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<sup>1</sup> As of November 28, 2022

Moore was also selected to the All-CAA Second Team and CAA All-Rookie Team as a result of her standout play in her first season on Long Island.

Volleyball student-athletes senior Julia Kim and juniors Torri Henry, Leoni Kunz and Julia Patsos were named to the Academic East All-District Team, which awards the nation's top student-athletes for their combined performances on the court and in the classroom. To qualify, student-athletes must maintain a 3.50 GPA, have a minimum of one year completed at their current institution and had to have played in 50 percent of Stony Brook's games.

Women's Basketball graduate student Annie Warren became the 19<sup>th</sup> player in program history to eclipse 1,000 career points as she scored a team-high 28 in a Nov. 14 win over Iona. The team went on to sweep both games of the Puerto Rico Clasico over Thanksgiving, defeating High Point and Texas A&M-Corpus Christi.

Men's Basketball won its home opener 86-65 over Miami Hamilton on Nov. 11 behind a career-high 29 points from junior Kenan Sarvan.

Graduate defensive back Carthell Flowers-Lloyd was honored as an All-CAA Football selection after finishing the season third in the conference for tackles for loss.

Women's Lacrosse student-athletes Ellie Masera (#6), Kailyn Hart (#32) and Clare Levy (#37) were named to the Inside Lacrosse Top 50 Preseason Players list.