Letter From the Director

It’s an exciting time to be in career services.

Recent calls from public officials, parents and students for a clearer sense of the return on financial investment made in a college education have paved the way for career services to play a more central and strategic role in the academic environment.

Institutions around the country are allocating more resources to career services to leverage the professional networks and contacts that best add value to students’ overall college experience.

At Stony Brook University, during the past 15 years we have made modest but important investments in career services — and the results have been nothing less than incredible!

We have masterfully navigated changes in the economy and job market, grown program offerings, bolstered services, and expanded our reach to every college and school on campus.

The continued aspiration to be the best add value to students’ overall college education and success.

It is gratifying to learn that our efforts are being acknowledged. The National Student Employment Association (NSEA) recently recognized Stony Brook University as a leader in transformative student employment programs. It invited us to share our story in an article, “The Campus as a Learning Laboratory: Transforming Student Employment,” which appeared in the NSEA’s spring 2016 journal.

This brochure tells our story: it is one of productive careers.

MARIANNA SAVOCA
The Career Center is committed to excellence. Our dedicated professionals have been recipients of the SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Excellence and have been profiled in Newsday, Long Island Business News and by News 12, and on the websites of the National Association of Colleges and Employers and Eastern Association of Colleges and Employers. Our staff has a threefold primary mission to:

» EDUCATE students about the career development process and industry options, and empower them to make informed career decisions

» PREPARE students for experiential learning (through internships, co-ops and community service), employment and further education

» CONNECT hiring organizations with our diverse student and alumni talent

We recognize that faculty and staff play important roles in connecting students with potential employers, and that it’s never too early to guide students on their academic journey and help them explore career options.

Let Us Assist You

The Career Center has many resources — including online career exploration programs and industry databases — to assist you in helping your students learn about opportunities available for every major offered at Stony Brook. We serve all undergraduate and graduate students, postdocs and alumni.

Among our innovations:

Mock Interview Day — We were one of the first in the country to introduce this popular and successful event.

Diversity Professional Leadership Network — This is a unique career development program that pairs students with industry mentors.

Explorations in STEM Research — Co-created with URECA (Undergraduate Research & Creative Activities), this program aims to increase access to research opportunities for underrepresented students.

Graduate Student and Postdoc Career Service — We provide specialized services to prepare and connect advanced candidates with industry.

Social media offers endless ways to bring people together with little effort, helping to organize connections so that they can be used effectively. A growing number of employers, industry leaders and other professionals pay close attention to social media, which has led to a sweeping reinvention of the college recruitment process and the way career centers operate.

Stony Brook’s Career Center stays abreast of the latest trends in social media technology. We help students and alumni leverage the newest platforms in support of career exploration, networking and connections to professionals. We routinely use social media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Blogspot and LinkedIn to inform students and alumni of Career Center events and to distribute job-search information.

By using these various platforms to interact with professionals and experts, students and alumni will be able to strengthen their knowledge, stay on top of trends and current issues, and increase awareness of their job, internship and networking opportunities.
A career path is as unique as the student pursuing it, and the relationship between an academic major and career options isn’t always apparent or linear. For example, you may know a student who plans to go to medical school but wants to major in music and philosophy.

By using tools such as our Career Decision Clinic — an innovative method of providing support to undecided and exploring students — we help students take real steps to bring their career goals into focus by identifying, assessing and understanding their competencies, interests, values and personal characteristics. We show them that many career paths can be connected to one major, and many majors can lead to a specific career.

As part of our mission to educate, we bring career development into the classroom through such courses as CAR 110: Career Development and Major Decision Making and CAR 210: Career Planning.

The Career Center has faculty partners in every school and college in almost every academic department. These dedicated faculty serve as internship sponsors, moderate industry panels, advise professionally oriented student organizations, join us on corporate site visits and connect us with new industry partners.

Also, our collaborations with Academic Advising and the Undergraduate Colleges have enabled us to better support students who are exploring their options, helping them to understand the connection between academic majors and potential careers.

“Thank you so much for your motivational talks. Your presence and information make it much easier for students to take the first step.”
— MARGOT WHITTEMORE-PALERMO, College of Business

**LEADERS IN OUR FIELD**

Stony Brook’s Career Center has earned a reputation for excellence. Some of our accomplishments in the past decade:

- **77** LEADERSHIP ROLES assumed in local, regional and national organizations
- **65** PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS delivered at national and regional conferences
- **17** REGIONAL AND NATIONAL AWARDS received for outstanding programs and service

Stony Brook computer science students meet with entrepreneurs at the Students and Start-Ups event, which is co-hosted by the Career Center, Department of Computer Science and Accelerate Long Island.
EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING CONNECTIONS

The Career Center is a leader in experiential education. We have:

» SECURED $800,000 in grants for AmeriCorps and VISTA programs, which provided thousands of dollars in scholarships and engaged thousands of students in community service projects. With support from the Office of the President, we also secured the prestigious Carnegie Community Engagement Classification for Stony Brook University. Learn more at http://carnegieclassifications.iu.edu

» STEWARDED $600,000 in scholarships and internship stipends for students at non-governmental organizations from the JFEW-SUNY Scholars Program in International Relations & Global Affairs.

» POSTED THOUSANDS of internships on our recruitment portal, now called Handshake.

» CREATED a nationally recognized Career Center student paraprofessionals program in which 25 to 30 undergraduate and graduate students participate every year.

» RECEIVED $299,000 from PSEG to fund Explorations in STEM, which is co-coordinated with the URECA program and Office of the Associate Provost of Diversity and Inclusion. The purpose of the program is to introduce high-achieving financially disadvantaged students to research, which is conducted alongside faculty mentors for 10 weeks during the summer. Students attend weekly meetings that help foster career and professional development.

Our Mission to Prepare Students

During the past decade, there has been a marked shift in employer expectations of college graduates. To be competitive in the 21st-century job market, students of all majors must be able to demonstrate their transferable skills and their ability to apply classroom learning to real-world environments.

As such, experiential opportunities such as internships, co-op, research and study abroad are now expected. The Career Center aggressively pursues new employers and partners with academic departments to help students find the right fit.

We work with you so that your students may select opportunities that add value to their learning and career development, optimize future educational and employment options, and fulfill the experiential portion [EXP+] of the Stony Brook curriculum.

Where Do Stony Brook Students Get Experiential Learning Opportunities?
Number of Students, 2015–2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Graduate</th>
<th>Undergraduate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Study Abroad</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Practicum</td>
<td>4,000</td>
<td>4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinicals</td>
<td>6,000</td>
<td>6,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internship</td>
<td>8,000</td>
<td>8,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Our Mission to Connect Students With Industry

Connecting students to industry professionals and career opportunities is core to what we do. Thousands of companies from many industries have accounts in Handshake, and we post thousands of listings every year.

We proudly introduce our corporate and nonprofit contacts to faculty and student organizations, and work closely with employers of all sizes. We partner with our economic development entities: AERTC, CEWIT, our business and technology incubators, Small Business Development Center and area chambers of commerce.

The Career Center enjoys close relationships with hiring organizations: Several hundred have been recruiting on campus for years and participate in career education workshops, class lectures and club presentations. They return to Stony Brook every year for two primary reasons:

• Our talented and diverse student body
• Career Center’s outstanding customer support

Our flourishing corporate partners program — the Career Center Partnership Council — has enabled us to raise several hundred thousand dollars in sponsorships and external support to fund innovative career preparation programs for students, corporate site visits, recruitment events and student-employer networking activities.

In addition, because of our strong partnership with the Peace Corps, we were invited to apply for a grant to bring a Peace Corps recruiter to campus. In 2015 Stony Brook University became the first SUNY campus to host a Peace Corps recruiter on site. This grant-funded, part-time position will enable us to increase visibility of the Peace Corps on campus, greatly increase the number of Peace Corps Volunteers from Stony Brook and ultimately raise the overall profile of international service opportunities for students and alumni.

“I started an internship at an online marketing firm and was asked to research websites and work on a proposal. I responded as if I had an instinct for these tasks. All these professional skills came from my experience at the Career Center.”

— JOHN MONASTERO ’10, former student intern, BA, History

HOW STONY BROOK STUDENTS/ALUMNI USE OUR SERVICES EVERY YEAR

› 7,000 CAREER PRESENTATION ATTENDEES
› 20,000 IN-PERSON VISITS
› 900,000 ONLINE TRANSACTIONS
Inasmuch as we have made a commitment to lifelong career development of our alumni, we invite them to make a commitment to helping advance the careers of Stony Brook students and graduates. We actively seek alumni to sponsor internships and co-ops, introduce us to hiring managers and college relations staff, and engage their organizations in a variety of University co-sponsored initiatives, which could involve research collaborations with faculty, project work for students in senior capstone courses and/or corporate philanthropy. There are 500-plus Seawolves who are part of our Career Advisors Network (CAN), offering advice and mentoring students. Career Center alumni CAN mentors also represent their companies at our career fairs, industry networking events, in classrooms, and at student organization meetings and events. We stand ready to engage even more alumni in the career development of students.

Our Commitment to Alumni

Support from the Career Center doesn’t end at graduation. In Fall 2013, we launched Alumni Career Services with funding from University Advancement and the Alumni Association. Graduates of Stony Brook University now enjoy a lifetime of services that include individual career-counseling appointments, in-person events, specialized online resources and a series of webinars tailored to alumni at different stages of career development.

Our innovative Alumni Career Services’ model is customized for the distinctly different career needs of entry-level, mid-level and more experienced professionals. In just two short years, Alumni Career Services is thriving!

Working With Our Alumni-Employers

Inasmuch as we have made a commitment to lifelong career development of our alumni, we invite them to make a commitment to helping advance the careers of Stony Brook students and graduates. We actively seek alumni to sponsor internships and co-ops, introduce us to hiring managers and college relations staff, and engage their organizations in a variety of University co-sponsored initiatives, which could involve research collaborations with faculty, project work for students in senior capstone courses and/or corporate philanthropy. There are 500-plus Seawolves who are part of our Career Advisors Network (CAN), offering advice and mentoring students. Career Center alumni CAN mentors also represent their companies at our career fairs, industry networking events, in classrooms, and at student organization meetings and events. We stand ready to engage even more alumni in the career development of students.

AN EYE TOWARD THE FUTURE

The Career Center is staffed by forward-thinking individuals who anticipate trends and recognize changes in the industry and in our student demographic. This ensures that we take a proactive approach to changing conditions. Our priorities:

- EXPAND experiential learning opportunities, in particular, internships and co-ops
- INCREASE the number and variety of employers that recruit students from all majors
- WORK with campus departments to transform student employment on campus and make the experience a valuable learning opportunity and venue for professional preparation

“The Stony Brook University Career Center is instrumental in our success on campus. They are immediate in their response to our requests to promote GEICO’s jobs and scholarships. Their staff sets the bar for all other career centers to follow.”

— JEANNIE TOSCANO, GEICO
What People Are Saying

“I was in a meeting with different organizations and the conversation shifted to career centers at universities. I felt proud to say that I had interned at Stony Brook’s Career Center. The consensus was that it is one of the most well-developed and impressive career centers.”

— COURTNEY SECK ’10, BA, Humanities ’11, MA, Medical Humanities, Compassionate Care and Bioethics

“Recently, I have been helping young women from various backgrounds who were awarded scholarships by the Women’s Bond Club. Every time I have a conversation with one of these scholars, I think of you and am grateful for the help that you gave me when I was in their shoes.”

— NIKITA AIREN ’00, BS, Information Systems

The Career Center partners with INROADS, a company whose mission is to develop and place talented underserved youth in business and industry, to pair Stony Brook’s qualified talent pool with well-matched corporations.