February 7, 2011

TO: University Senate

FROM: Samuel L. Stanley Jr., M.D.
President

SUBJECT: President’s Report

I. Budget
While the University is encouraged by Governor Cuomo’s recent inclusion of legislation addressing the critically needed regulatory relief related to procurement and public private partnerships in his Feb. 1 budget presentation, we were surprised by the disproportionate nature of the proposed cuts to Stony Brook, specifically as it relates to our teaching hospital. Not only are we receiving an estimated $12 million cut to direct state funding on the academic side, we are also looking at a $55 million cut to our teaching hospital, which represents the hospital’s entire direct State support. As the only SUNY University Center with a teaching hospital, we are affected doubly by these cuts which amount to approximately $67 million. Therefore, while other campuses face a 10% cut, it appears that Stony Brook is being asked to absorb approximately a 30% cut in direct state support. It goes without saying that such a significant reduction will have a profound impact on our institution and our region. In the days ahead, we will be engaged in multiple strategies for addressing this critical issue and hope that this inequity is recognized and can be rectified. We will keep the campus community informed of any changes in the budget situation as they occur.
II. Spring Enrollment/Retention and Graduation Rates
A total of 22,965 students were registered on opening day this spring, 146 fewer students than were registered at that time last year. Student counts will be updated every five class days until the enrollment snapshot, which will be taken at the close of business on February 18.

Preliminary Retention & Graduation Rates (Fall ‘93- Fall ‘10)
Based on recent data provided by the SBU Office of Institutional Research, Stony Brook’s one-year retention rate for students entering as full-time freshmen leveled off at 87% for three years for the fall 2002 through fall 2004 cohorts, peaked at 89.2% for the fall 2006 cohort, after which it has ranged from 87.6% to 88.6%. The one-year retention for the freshmen entering in fall 2009 is 87.9%.

The four-year graduation rate for full-time freshmen increased substantially for the fall 2006 cohort, rising from 40% for the class entering in 2002 to 45.8% for those entering in 2006. The percentage of students graduating after six years has risen from 53% eleven years ago to 67.3% for the 2003 cohort, but has dropped to 64.7% for the most recent cohort. Based on the four-year rate of the fall 2006 cohort, the graduation rate may be expected to again reach the 67% level in another two years. The final graduation rate rose to 62% for students who entered in fall 2001 and fall 2002.

III. Appointments/University Searches

Vice President for External Relations
Elaine Crosson, former General Counsel and Vice President for Legal Services at Long Island University, has been appointed as Vice President for External Relations, effective February 14. She will serve as Stony Brook’s primary liaison for state and federal legislative matters and will oversee the offices of Communications, Community Relations, Governmental Relations and Media Relations.
Provost Search
Preliminary planning related to the search for the University’s next Provost has begun, with the newly appointed search committee meeting for the first time on Tuesday, Feb. 1. Russell Reynolds and Associates will assist the on-campus search committee, which is headed by co-chairs **Dr. David Ferguson**, distinguished professor and chair of the Department of Technology and Society, and **Dr. Nancy Tomes**, professor of the Department of History. Other committee members include:

**Dr. Samuel Aronson**, Director of Brookhaven National Laboratory and President of Brookhaven Science Associates; **Barbara Chernow**, Vice President for Facilities and Services; **Dr. Brian A. Colle**, Professor in the School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences Center; **Alexander Dimitriyadi**, Student Member, Executive Vice President, USG; **Dr. Mary D. (Molly) Frame**, Associate Professor, Vice Chair and Director of the Undergraduate Program in the Department of Bioengineering; **Karol Kain Gray**, Vice President for Finance and Administration; **Dr. Barbara V. Jacak**, Distinguished Professor in the Department of Physics and Astronomy; **Dr. Tonjanita L. Johnson**, Chief Deputy to the President; **Dr. Kenneth Kaushansky**, Dean of the School of Medicine and Senior Vice President of Health Sciences; **Dr. Robert F. Kelly**, Associate Chair of the Department of Computer Science; **Kevin Law**, Chair of the Stony Brook Council and President and Chief Executive Officer of Long Island Association, Inc.; **Richard T. Nasti** (’78), Stony Brook Foundation Board Member and Senior Vice President of H. J. Kalikow & Co.; **Dr. Ellen K. Pikitch**, Professor and Executive Director of the Institute for Ocean Conservation Science; **Dr. Lorna Role**, Professor and Chair in the Department of Neurobiology and Behavior; **Dr. Michael H. Schwartz**, Professor and Chair in the Department of Sociology and Former University Senate President; **Dr. Nicole S. Sampson**, Professor in the Department of Chemistry and Associate Dean of Curriculum for the College of Arts and Sciences; **Dylan Selterman**, doctoral candidate and former President of the GSO; **Donna Woodruff**, Executive Associate Director of Athletics; and **Dr. Matthew Whelan**, Assistant Provost for Admissions and Financial Aid.
A special Web site for the Provost position is currently under development and will provide additional information about the job and the search process. The University community will be informed as soon as the position is officially posted.

IV. **New Carnegie Classification for Community Engagement**
Since the Senate’s last meeting, the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching granted Stony Brook University the highly selective 2010 Community Engagement Classification for Curricular Engagement and Community Outreach. This voluntary classification, a designation shared by only 311 institutions of higher education, provides national acknowledgement for Stony Brook’s institutional commitment to, and support of, its surrounding community.

V. **Recent Rankings**
*Kiplinger’s Personal Finance* recently announced the **100 best values in public colleges and universities**, ranking Stony Brook University 25th among four-year institutions that deliver a “stellar education at an affordable price” – besting last year’s distinction by 14 when Stony Brook was ranked the 39th best value. The annual public school rankings appear on the Kiplinger Website and in the Kiplinger’s February 2011 issue. Stony Brook was selected from a pool of more than 500 public four-year institutions. The colleges and universities in the Kiplinger 100 were ranked according to academic quality—including admission and retention rates, student-faculty ratios, four- and six-year graduation rates, and cost and financial aid.

Stony Brook was also recently ranked by ScienceWatch.com as **one of the top 10 institutions worldwide for Hadron Collider research**. SBU was named 8th best overall—which includes national laboratories—and the 3rd best university in the world. Stony Brook’s strong programs in both nuclear and particle physics theory were key factors in the university’s high ranking.

VI. **Julie Andrews and Emma Walton to Serve as Gala Honorees**
The annual Stars of Stony Brook Gala will honor world-renowned, Academy- and Grammy-Award winning actress Julie Andrews and her daughter, Emma Walton Hamilton, a New York Times best-
selling author and esteemed member of the Stony Brook University faculty, on Monday, April 4, 2011, at Pier Sixty at Chelsea Piers in New York City. Proceeds from this year’s Gala will benefit the Stony Brook Long Island Children’s Hospital and student scholarships.

VII. Key Dates/Upcoming Events

Service Awards
The University will host its annual Service Awards program on Tuesday, February 8. This program recognizes individuals with 50, 45, 40, 35, 30 and 25 years of service. This year marks the first time that we will be recognizing someone with 50 years of Service—Robert Schneider from the Department of Chemistry. Some 319 members of the University family are expected to be recognized at this event, with years of service designated as follows:

- 45 years - 4 employees
- 40 years - 17 employees
- 35 years - 18 employees
- 30 years - 90 employees
- 25 years - 189 employees

Presidential Mini-grant
The deadline to apply for the Presidential Mini-Grant for Departmental Diversity Initiatives is February 22. These mini-grants are designed to support departmental projects that encourage diversity in the learning experience. Project proposals should not exceed $10,000. Recipients of the mini-grant awards will be recognized during the University’s Annual Awards Dinner in the fall. For more information on the awards, please visit:

http://www.stonybrook.edu/pres/deptdiversity.html

VIII. Athletics Update

Men’s Basketball - Coach Steve Pikiell and the Stony Brook men’s basketball team are currently in 5th place in the America East Conference with 7 games remaining in the regular season. The team has several key games coming up in the near future, including next weekend’s nationally televised game (on ESPNU) against second place University of Maine on Saturday, February 12 at 11:00am in the Stony Brook Arena. A sellout crowd of 4,000 is
expected. In his last game, junior Bryan Dougher (Scotch Plains, NJ) broke the Stony Brook record for career 3-pointers with 222 so far.

**Men’s Lacrosse** - The Stony Brook men’s lacrosse team is ranked 5th in the country in the first pre-season polls and will open their season at home against #1 University of Virginia on Saturday, February 26 at noon in Kenneth P. LaValle Stadium. Stony Brook lost to Virginia last year in the NCAA quarterfinals by a score of 10-9. Four members of the current team were taken in the recent Major League Lacrosse draft. Senior Kevin Crowley (New Westminster, British Columbia) was selected as the #1 overall pick and is a preseason all-American and the preseason Player of the Year.