OFFICE OF THE PROVOST AND  
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS  

TO: University Senate  
FROM: Dennis N. Assanis, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs  
DATE: March 4, 2013  

REPORT TO THE UNIVERSITY SENATE  

UPDATE ON SUNY KOREA  

SUNY Korea started its third semester today (Korean time) with its first undergraduate class. As of Feb. 28, total enrollment for this spring semester is 85 students, broken down as 11 PhD, 48 MS and 26 BS spread over degree programs in Technology and Society (PhD, MS, BS) and Computer Science (PhD, MS). Final enrollment numbers will be available March 8. 129 students applied for the DTS undergraduate program and 30 were offered admission. The 26 enrolled UG students came from South Korea, US and Chile. As with the graduate students, admission to the undergraduate program in Songdo is processed through Stony Brook. All admitted students met SBU’s TOEFL requirement; in fact 12 of the students placed out of WRT 101 based upon their SAT/ACT scores. The average composite (math + critical reading) SAT score of this entering class was 1214; the maximum score was 1570. As required, students have taken the English and Math placement exams this past week and are being placed in the appropriate WRT 101/102, ESL 192/193, and calculus course based upon their placement scores.  

To attract the attention of high-achieving UG students and increase diversity, SUNY Korea has been working with the Ambassadors of selected developing countries to offer a full scholarship to one top student from each country. A team of three SBU registrar, advising, and enrollment staff will travel to SUNY Korea in Spring 2014 to guide the first cohort of SUNY Korea UG students in course registration, particularly general education courses, which they will take during their year at SBU’s main campus in 2014/15. SUNY Korea students will be encouraged to participate in the new gen ed curriculum provided it is implemented on or before F’2014.  

In addition to the two SBU faculty who act as program chairs, there are 5 tenure track, 1 practice-track, and 3 adjunct faculty SUNY Korea faculty. A 6th tenure track faculty member will begin this summer. SUNY Korea faculty are participating in three large research programs: IT Consilience: $1M/yr for 10 years; Continuing Education ($0.5M to $1.5M per year for 5 to 7 years); and Software Specialized Program: ($200K/yr for 5 years). We are currently seeking Korean Ministry of Education approval to open MS and PhD programs in Mechanical Engineering and BS programs in CSE/ISE in the Fall of 2014.  

2013 SBU-BNL SEED GRANT PROGRAM  

The Seed Grant Program serves to foster collaborative efforts between scientists at the University
and BNL. It is a key element for developing synergistic activities that can grow joint research programs that are aligned with the strategic plans of both institutions. For this fifteenth year, a pool of up to $200K will be distributed to proposals submitted jointly by SBU and BNL scientists.

Current major strategic initiatives are in Energy (Smart Grid, Energy Production and Storage), High-Performance Computing, the Joint Photon Science Institute (including structural biology), Cosmology, and Biological/Life Sciences imaging research. Proposals for enhancements in other BNL-SBU collaborations are also welcome. Successful proposals in areas of high interest to BNL may be eligible for matching funds from BNL.

Winning proposals are typically between $30k and $50k. Funds become available on July 1, 2013 and should be expended within 18 months of award; uncommitted funds will be returned to the program. All awardees will be required to provide a brief (2 page) progress report after 12 months and a brief final report (2 pages with references) on the results of the project and about the future opportunities that became available in connection with the project.

The Office of the VP for Brookhaven Affairs will handle proposals and oversee decisions on awards. Recommendations for awards will be made by an ad-hoc committee of SBU and BNL scientific leaders. Proposals should explain the significance of the project to scientists who are not experts in the field, and should clearly lay out a vision for the strategic contribution an award will make to the research missions of both institutions.

The 2012 seed grant campaign funded 8 out of 28 submitted proposals. The abstracts of approved grants can be read online at http://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/bnl/seedgrantwinners2012.html. The awarded funds are administered by the SBU Research Foundation. Proposed budgets should not contain overhead charges, and graduate students stipends carry no tuition fee. If a proposal obtains joint funding from BNL, these funds will be administered in the same SBU-RF account as the SBU funds.

The deadline for the submission of proposals is 5:00 p.m. on April 8, 2013. The proposal will be reviewed by senior scientific staff from SBU and BNL. Results from the proposal review will be announced in the first week of May 2013.

Proposals will be judged on the following criteria:
1. The scientific excellence of the proposal;
2. The benefits of the project to the research missions of Stony Brook and BNL;
3. The budget narrative indicating how the funds will be used; and
4. The opportunities that are created by the project for attracting follow-up external funding.

Proposals must be submitted electronically as a single pdf file and include the following items:
1. 2013 SBU/BNL Seed Grant Program Cover Sheet;
2. Proposal narrative (no more than 10 pages, 11-point font, standard margins);
3. CV of SBU PI and BNL co-PI, (no more than four pages each) plus a list of additional SBU and BNL participants, if any;
4. Proposal budget (fringe benefits should be included, but no overhead) and budget narrative (no more than 2 pages, 11-point font, standard margins). If BNL support is sought, a separate budget should be submitted by the BNL PI; and
5. List of current funding held by the PI’s (having other funding does not diminish chances of obtaining a seed grant).
NOTE:

1. A Conflict of Interest Form for the SBU PI, which must be signed by your Department Chair and Dean, must also be submitted, but can follow submission of the proposal. The form can be downloaded through the following links:

   http://www.stonybrook.edu/research/orc/coi.shtml#forms-tab
   http://www.stonybrook.edu/research/forms/coi/cid.shtml

   All proposals must include the mailing address, email address and phone number of both PIs.

2. Proposals will receive a log-in confirmation number from the Office of the VP for Brookhaven Affairs upon submission. RFP information and Proposal Applications are available at http://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/bnl/seedgrants.html.

General Information:

Please email your completed proposal package to Laura Lyons, Assistant Vice-President for Brookhaven Affairs, at laura.lyons@stonybrook.edu. The Conflict of Interest Form, with appropriate signatures, should be mailed to Laura Lyons, Office of the Provost, Stony Brook University, Administration Building, Suite 407, Stony Brook, NY, 11794-1401. All inquiries should be addressed to Laura Lyons at (631) 632-4297.

MARCH 2013 PROVOST’S LECTURE SERIES

On Thursday, March 14, 2013 at 5:30 pm in Harriman Hall, Room 214, we are hosting a lecture by Alison Jaggar, entitled, “Situating Moral Justification: Rethinking the Mission of Moral Epistemology.” Alison Jaggar is a College Professor of Distinction in Philosophy, and Women and Gender Studies, at the University of Colorado at Boulder. Jaggar works in the areas of contemporary social, moral and political philosophy, often from a feminist perspective. In the past decade, her work has introduced gender as a category of analysis into the philosophical debate on global justice. Currently, Jaggar is a member of a Fempov, a multidisciplinary and international research team whose aim is to produce a new poverty standard or metric capable of revealing the gendered dimensions of global poverty. In addition, Jaggar is exploring the potential of a naturalized approach to moral epistemology for addressing moral disputes in contexts of inequality and cultural difference. This Provost’s Lecture is co-sponsored with the Department of Cultural Analysis and Theory, the Department of Philosophy, and the Journal Metaphilosophy.

17TH ANNUAL SWARTZ FOUNDATION MIND/brains LECTURER

The Swartz Foundation presents an exploration into the far reaches of the human mind with a lecture by Dr. Michael Wigler, Professor of Genetics, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory on Monday, April 1, 2013 at 4:30 pm on the Staller Center Main Stage. There is also a reception to follow in the Staller Art Gallery. Wigler’s lecture is entitled “Considering the Genetics of Cognitive Function through the Prism of Autism.” Michael Wigler has been a trailblazer in the field of biomedical research, including human genetic disorders, population genetics and cancer genomics, and his contributions to the field of mammalian genetics have led to medicinal breakthroughs in the treatment of strokes, heart disease and cancer. Wigler's work on mammalian cell gene transfer is nothing short of groundbreaking—with several
major scientific discoveries occurring behind the walls of CSHL, where he has been since 1979. Wigler remains on the forefront of molecular cancer research, unraveling the mysteries of the genetic mutations driving the evolution of cancer cells and those that underlie genetic diseases, such as autism, and discovering new disease-causing genes.

2013 STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY ANNUAL ASSESSMENT INSTITUTE

Stony Brook University hosted its Annual Assessment Institute on Friday February 15, 2013 from 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. in the Wang Center, Room 201. This institute provided participants with background on the national and international contexts for assessment and learning, as well as models and strategies for assessing general education learning outcomes. It also provided examples of how to assess learning in a manner that delivers information: faculty members and other educators can use in their own courses; students can use to improve the quality of their performance and learning; and the institution can use for accountability reporting.

The 2013 Annual Assessment Institute was facilitated by Linda Suskie, former Vice President at the Middle States Commission on Higher Education. The focus of Linda Suskie’s presentation was that collecting data is one thing, but making sense of your results is another. In this hands-on institute, participants learned techniques and strategies for interpreting assessment results, setting standards, and utilizing results to improve teaching and learning. Real results from Stony Brook were used to offer a more relevant explanation and discussion on assessment solutions.