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 2, 2015

REPORT TO THE UNIVERSITY SENATE

Search for the Dean of the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences (CEAS)

The Office of the Provost is in the process of initiating a national search for our next Dean of CEAS. Reporting to the Provost, the Dean of CEAS is the chief academic and administrative leader for the college. He/she serves as a key member of the University’s leadership team. The Dean of CEAS will guide a robust scholarship and research agenda, and promote excellence in undergraduate and graduate education, including the development of collaborative academic programs. The Dean will also be responsible for facilitating faculty and student success, define and execute strategic priorities, refine appropriate administrative structures, and build productive relationships within the School, as well as across the University. He/she will be responsible for generating extramural financial support and developing relevant corporate, industry and professional partnerships, and fundraising in support of the College’s goals and the goals of its departments.

The Dean provides support, oversight, and advocacy for CEAS’ eight academic departments and 18 undergraduate and graduate programs, with responsibility for program development, program evaluation, and strategic leadership for engineering education at SBU and among our national and international peers. The Dean of the CEAS is also responsible for the M.S. in Global Operations Management international training program, the CEAS’ academic programs in SUNY Korea, and the University’s Women in Science and Engineering Program. He/she will be responsible for the accreditation of the College’s academic programs by the Engineering Accreditation Commission and Computing Accreditation Commission of ABET. The incumbent will also be responsible for developing and overseeing a variety of university-wide initiatives and policies related to engineering education, research and collaborations at Stony Brook University, including the University’s numerous sustainability efforts.

The announcement of the search committee and the search web site will be forthcoming shortly.

Search for the Next Dean of International Academic Programs and Services (IAPS)

The Office of the Provost is in the process of initiating a national search for our next Dean of IAPS. Reporting to the Provost, the Dean of IAPS is responsible for developing and overseeing a variety of University-wide initiatives and policies related to international research, education, and collaborations at SBU. The Dean serves as a key member of the University’s leadership
team. The Dean seeks to promote and develop SBU’s global activities across its schools, foster coordination among them, oversee and review international endeavors, and set policies to establish best practices. He/she will be responsible for further internationalizing SBU, and will work with academic units to internationalize the curriculum, develop global studies and programs, and promote international educational opportunities both on-campus and overseas. The Dean of IAPS will work closely with the Deans of the Colleges/Schools and the Director of the newly established Global Studies program to foster its development, as well as administer the international summer school at SBU. The incumbent will further develop and coordinate SBU’s international recruitment and enrollment efforts for undergraduates in collaboration with Admissions and Enrollment Management, as well as assist in the international graduate admissions process.

The Dean of IAPS will be responsible for overseeing visa and immigration services for students, visiting scholars, faculty, and researchers at SBU. He/she will also oversee SBU’s study abroad and exchange programs. The Dean will have oversight over the Intensive English Center, the Confucius Institute, the Institutes for Global Studies and Cognitive and Cultural Studies, and the University's Fulbright programs. He/she will coordinate with existing on-campus international centers, institutes and overseas sites, and the Director of Academic Programs for SUNY Korea regarding related matters. The Dean will coordinate international sponsored programs, and will be responsible for reviewing proposals to develop inter-faculty initiatives on global topics and, working collaboratively with the Deans and the faculty, will also stimulate the development of such proposals. He/she will serve on the University Committee on International Risk Management, which is responsible for reviewing, overseeing and, if warranted, suspending SBU activities abroad.

The announcement of the search committee and the search web site will be forthcoming shortly.

*Dr. Peter Paul, Associate Vice President for Brookhaven Affairs and Distinguished Service and Research Professor, has retired!*

Dr. Peter Paul, Associate Vice President for Brookhaven Affairs, and Distinguished Service and Research Professor in the Department of Physics and Astronomy, has retired from Stony Brook University, effective February 20, 2015. Peter’s 48 years long and distinguished career at Stony Brook University, both in terms of research accomplishments and service, began when he joined Stony Brook in 1967, coming from Stanford University. Peter’s research interests are in the field of nuclear physics, including nuclear structure, heavy ion physics, neutrino physics, and particle accelerators. He authored and co-authored more than 180 articles in refereed journals and books, and served in editorial roles for several high-impact international journals in nuclear and particle physics. Peter was the recipient of numerous awards, including a Sloan Foundation Fellowship and an Alexander von Humboldt Foundation Senior Scientist Award.

He served as head of Stony Brook’s Nuclear Structure Laboratory, where he and Gene Sprouse designed and built one of the first superconducting linear accelerators. Peter also twice served as Chair of Stony Brook’s Physics Department. Furthermore, he served as a member, and then as Chair, of the NSF/DOE Nuclear Science Advisory Committee, which advises the federal government on almost all funding for nuclear science. In 1997, Peter played a key role in capturing the management contract for Brookhaven National Laboratory, in partnership with Battelle Memorial Institute. On starting this new management role in 1998, Peter moved to BNL.
as Deputy Director of Science and Technology, working with the new Director, Dr. Jack Marburger. At BNL, Peter played critical roles that would lead to the creation of major user facilities, including the Center for Functional Nanomaterials and the National Synchrotron Light Source-II. He later served as Interim Director of BNL for two years before returning to the University in 2005 as Distinguished Service and Research Professor in the Department of Physics and Astronomy.

In 2011, Peter was appointed Associate Vice President for Brookhaven Affairs. In this role, he greatly expanded Stony Brook’s interactions and collaborations with BNL. Peter facilitated numerous joint appointments between Stony Brook and BNL, and created opportunities for graduate and undergraduate student participation in BNL activities. More recently, Peter played a central role in DOE’s recompetition for the BNL management contract, which was successful. Peter’s vision for expanding synergy with BNL’s research mission has greatly benefited Stony Brook, providing many research opportunities for students and faculty alike, and enhancing Stony Brook’s reputation among the world’s research universities.

Dr. Richard Reeder Appointed Associate Vice President for Brookhaven Affairs

Dr. Richard Reeder has been appointed as the Associate Vice President for Brookhaven Affairs, effective immediately. Dr. Reeder is a Professor of Geochemistry in the Department of Geosciences, having joined the faculty at SBU in 1980. Dr. Reeder provided dedicated leadership and service as Geosciences Department Chair from 2008 through 2013, after serving as Deputy Chair for several years. He was also the Director of the Center for Environmental Molecular Science from 2002-2012. Furthermore, he has served as the Chair of the national user group EnviroSync, which promotes application of synchrotron X-ray methods to environmental sciences. As a researcher, Dr. Reeder has used several beamlines at NSLS, and is currently a member of the SRX Beamline Advisory Team and a project team member for the TES Beamline of NSLS-2 at Brookhaven National Lab. He is also a founding member of SBU’s Consortium for Interdisciplinary Environmental Research (CIDER).

In his role as Associate Vice President for Brookhaven Affairs, Dr. Reeder will work closely with the Vice President for Brookhaven Affairs to continually enhance the relationship between Stony Brook and BNL. As part of these efforts, he will oversee processes related to joint faculty appointments between the two institutions, as well as annual performance evaluations of all faculty/scientists holding such joint appointments. His responsibilities will also involve coordination, development and support initiatives that bring faculty, students and staff together in scientific, educational, and cultural activities at BNL and SBU. Such activities will include the SBU-BNL seed grant program and recruitment events for faculty/scientists, post-docs, and students. He will also assist me in overseeing joint SBU-SBL centers that report to the Provost/Vice President for Brookhaven Affairs, such as the Joint Photon Sciences Institute and the Center for Accelerator Science and Education.

Dr. Reeder's experience in the academic, research, and administrative functions of our University and BNL ideally position him to be an outstanding Associate Vice President for Brookhaven Affairs. Most recently, Dr. Reeder served as Capture Manager in our re-competition effort for the management and operation contract for Brookhaven National Laboratory in partnership with Battelle Memorial Institute. This successful effort will allow him to further expand upon the synergies between BNL and SBU’s research missions, and enhance SBU’s reputation among the
world’s research universities. In parallel with his role as Associate Vice President for Brookhaven National Laboratory Affairs, Rich Reeder will continue to serve as Interim Deputy Provost until his replacement is named.

19TH Annual Swartz Foundation Mind/Brain Lecturer

The Department of Neurobiology and Behavior will host the 19th Annual Swartz Foundation Mind/Brain Lecture on Monday, March 30, 2015 at 4:30 p.m. in the Staller Center. William Bialek, Professor of Physics, Princeton University, and Director, Initiative for the Theoretical Sciences, The Graduate Center/CUNY, will present “Searching for Simplicity: A Physicist’s Quest for Theories of Mind and Brain.” Bialek’s influential research has addressed problems such as the dynamics of individual biological molecules, the decisions made by single cells in a developing embryo, and the “code” that the brain uses in representing information about the world around us. He has been a key figure in the emergence of biophysics as a sub-discipline within physics, and in bringing the quantitative traditions of physics to bear on a broad range of phenomena in biology. For more information on the speaker, please visit stonybrook.edu/mindbrain.

Remaining Spring 2015 Provost’s Lecture Series

On Thursday, March 12, 2015 at 9:00 am in the Charles B. Wang Center Theater, Dr. Jennifer R. Keup will speak on “Challenges in Higher Education: High Impact Practices and the Success of First Generation and Low Income Students.” Dr. Keup is the Director of the National Resource Center for The First-Year Experience and Students in Transition at the University of South Carolina. Among the numerous roles of public higher education is to ensure access to opportunities with the potential to improve individuals’ lives and the quality of our communities. To that end, enhancing the success of those who are the first in their family to go to college and of those from low income families, is a priority consistent with and representative of public universities’ mission. Jennifer Keup provides leadership for all operational, strategic, and scholarly activities of the Center in pursuit of its mission “to support and advance efforts to improve student learning and transitions into and through higher education.” In particular, Dr. Keup has developed significant expertise in high-impact practices and institutional interventions. As such, she is well-qualified to inform our efforts to improve upon our successes with first generation and low-income students, in the context of our overall commitment to improving four-year graduation rates. Joining Dr. Keup for this, the 20th Annual Leadership Symposium at Stony Brook University, will be Dr. Sacha Kopp, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, and Dr. Timothy Ecklund, Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students. Drs. Kopp and Ecklund will each respond to Dr. Keup’s presentation, after which the presenters will address questions from the symposium audience. This lecture is co-sponsored with the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs and the School of Social Welfare. This year’s Leadership Symposium is also part of the Division for Students Affairs’ Professional Development Series.

On Monday, April 13, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. in the Wang Center Theater, Dr. Simon LeVay will give a talk entitled “My Brain Made Me Gay: Scientific Perspectives on Sexual Orientation.” British-born neuroscientist, Simon LeVay, has served on the faculties of Harvard Medical School and the Salk Institute for Biological Studies. He achieved international fame with a 1991 Science paper that reported on a difference in the structure of the hypothalamus between gay and straight
men. This study helped trigger an avalanche of new biological research into sexual orientation—research that has influenced popular views on the nature of homosexuality. Since retiring from laboratory science, LeVay has authored or co-authored 12 books, including Gay, Straight, and the Reason Why, the textbook Discovering Human Sexuality, and the historical novel The Donation of Constantine. He has appeared on numerous TV and radio shows, including The Daily Show with Jon Stewart. The now-dominant biological theory of sexual orientation proposes that our sexual attraction to males, females, or both sexes emerges from prenatal interactions between genes, sex hormones, and the developing brain. In this talk, LeVay presents some of the evidence supporting this theory. He also asks whether the biological perspective has—or should have—any bearing on the moral status of homosexuality or on how gay people should be treated by society. This lecture is co-sponsored by the Stony Brook University Graduate Queer Alliance and the Neurosciences Institute.

On Thursday, April 16, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. in the Humanities Building, Room 1006, Dr. Georgiy Kasianov will present a lecture entitled “Ukraine between ‘The East’ and ‘The West’: The Final Cut?” Georgiy Kasianov is Head of the Department of Contemporary Politics and History at the Institute of the History of Ukraine, Kyiv, Ukraine. He is the author, editor or co-author of more than a dozen books and collected volumes on the modern history of Ukraine, Ukrainian nationalism and politics of history, including A Laboratory of Transnational History: Ukraine and Recent Ukrainian Historiography and Danse Macabre: The Great Famine of 1932-1933 in Politics, Mass Consciousness and History Writing, 1980s - 2000s. His scholarly interests are the modern history of Europe, methodology of history, intellectual history (Europe, US), history of Ukraine, educational policy, and teaching/learning methods. In this lecture, Kasianov will discuss the most conventional vision of Ukraine, which holds that this country is historically locked in an ambivalent position between “the West” (or Europe) and “the East” (as a rule equated to Russia). Additionally, Ukraine has its own internal East-West division determined by different political, cultural, and historical legacies. This lecture is co-sponsored by the Post-Socialism Research Institute, the Department of History, the Department of European Languages, Literatures and Cultures, and the Humanities Institute.