

# A LETTER TO THE COMMUNITY

From Stony Brook University President Samuel L. Stanley Jr.



I am pleased to share news about campus matters with our Stony Brook University neighbors and the broader community. There is much to be proud of at Stony Brook, and I expect this to be an exciting year.

I am especially proud of the recent findings showing that a Stony Brook University education provides a proven path toward upward mobility for students from low-income households. A new study led by the Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research ranks Stony Brook among the top 10 colleges and universities in the nation whose students begin college at the bottom fifth of income distribution and then go on to have income in the top three-fifths.

To assist with college affordability, Governor Andrew Cuomo crafted the Excelsior Scholarship program to make public college tuition free for students within certain income bands. New York is leading the way in college affordability, and this fall roughly 400 freshmen, transfers and continuing students applying to Stony Brook have been awarded the scholarship. To learn more about Excelsior, visit our financial aid website at [stonybrook.edu/finaid](http://stonybrook.edu/finaid).

Stony Brook is at the forefront of next-generation multidisciplinary engineering and medicine. The Empire State Development Corporation recently approved a \$75 million grant to develop the Institute for Discovery and Innovation in Medicine & Engineering (I-DIME) at the Stony Brook Research and Development Park. The 70,000-square-foot building, expected to open in 2021, will provide a place where cutting-edge academic research and data analytic support come together with private sector ingenuity to solve some of today's most challenging problems. I am grateful to Senator John Flanagan and Senator Ken LaValle for their vision and their help in bringing this grant to fruition.

In healthcare news, Stony Brook University welcomed Southampton Hospital, now known as Stony Brook Southampton Hospital, as a member of the Stony Brook Medicine health system. Stony Brook Southampton Hospital combines academic medicine and community medicine for a new level of care for East End residents. Senator LaValle and Assembly Member Fred Thiele Jr. were among the original visionaries on this initiative and helped us work through the state approval process.

Student housing construction continues on campus with the new West J Apartments, which will provide 173 additional apartment-style beds for upper-division undergraduates beginning in fall 2018. Stony Brook, now with more than 10,000 beds on campus, remains the leader in on-campus housing in the SUNY system.

As we enter the final months of the \$600 million Campaign for Stony Brook, I am heartened by the support we have already received from more than 43,000 donors — most of whom are from the Stony Brook community. I'm pleased to report that we've already raised \$554 million to support scholarships, endowed faculty, cancer research, the new Children's Hospital (opening next year), the Staller Center and other areas of excellence across campus.

Our student-athletes are gearing up for another successful season, and we've made some upgrades to Kenneth P. LaValle Stadium. New seating, concession stands and restrooms have been added to improve the fan experience. We hope to see you at the football home opener on Saturday, September 16, as the Seawolves take on Sacred Heart.

Stony Brook strives to be a good neighbor, and this year we are opening our campus departments to our friends, families and neighbors for the first CommUniversity Day on September 23. Visit our various campus "neighborhoods" from noon to 4 pm to discover new technology, hear some great music, learn about exciting research, enjoy hands-on activities and find ways to live a healthier lifestyle. Parking and admission are free. Details are available at [stonybrook.edu/SBUCommUniversity](http://stonybrook.edu/SBUCommUniversity).

We invite you to visit the campus and experience what Stony Brook offers. We are proud of all we are doing here and around the world through our research and education. We hope you share that Seawolf pride.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "S. L. Stanley Jr." in a cursive style.

Samuel L. Stanley Jr., MD  
President, Stony Brook University



Stony Brook University