

# A Letter to the Community

## From Stony Brook University Interim President Michael A. Bernstein



This past August, I was honored to assume the role of Interim President after serving for three years as Provost at Stony Brook University. Since I began my tenure, I have met with local community leaders and elected officials to answer their questions about the University and to give an update on our successes and plans for the campus. Last month, I presented the State of the University to the greater campus community. My presentation, which is available on the Stony Brook website, summarized the events and accomplishments of last year while looking forward to future milestones and initiatives. In all of these interactions, I have emphasized that Stony Brook is an elite – but not elitist – institution that demonstrates the best of what American higher education has to offer.

I am proud to share that Stony Brook University was ranked No. 25 among public universities in the *Wall Street Journal/Times Higher Education's* 2020 U.S. College Rankings, which also listed Stony Brook University as the No. 1 public university in New York State. *U.S. News & World Report* ranked Stony Brook in the top 100 among national universities and top 40 among public universities in its 2020 Best Colleges listing, and *Money* classified Stony Brook University as one of the top 50 “Best Value” Colleges in the nation. *Market Watch* has also recognized us as being in the top 10 of institutions in the nation that facilitate meaningful and statistically significant socio-economic mobility for its students.

We have had exciting updates throughout our medical network. The new Stony Brook Children’s Hospital and the Mobile Stroke Unit, which delivers emergency care for victims of stroke, have already officially launched. *Healthgrades* has recognized Stony Brook University Hospital as one of the top 2% of hospitals nationwide. Our affiliations with Stony Brook Southampton Hospital and Stony Brook Eastern Long Island Hospital are flourishing.

Stony Brook is proud to be a ‘green’ campus. We have reduced campus energy waste by 16% and have lead the way for SUNY University Centers in energy performance improvement. We are also on track to meet the State goal of reducing energy consumption by 20% by 2020.

I would like to announce several facilities improvements on the horizon. Next spring, the Stony Brook Union will reopen after a major renovation, as well as an indoor practice facility for our student athletes. At the Research and Development Park, work is underway for the Innovation and Discovery Center, which will provide room for companies ready to move up from start-up incubator space. We have new residence halls either in design or under construction at Tabler Quad and the West Apartments to meet our growing demand for on-campus housing. We are also launching a major project to address parking and transportation concerns.

We strive to be a worthy and thoughtful neighbor and hope you will take advantage of all that Stony Brook University has to offer. I look forward to seeing you on campus and wish you a happy and healthy holiday season.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "MA Bernstein". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Michael A. Bernstein  
Interim President, Stony Brook University



Stony Brook University