



CAPITOLS *and* COMMUNITIES



NEWS FROM THE OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS

SBU Takes Giant Step Toward Cleaner, Greener World with Gas Institute and Climate Leadership Summit

When the [Advanced Energy Research and Technology Center \(AERTC\)](#), a New York State-designated Center of Excellence, was founded several years ago at Stony Brook University, its goal was to foster collaboration between the brightest minds in academia and industry leaders in energy.



Launching the Institute of Gas Innovation and Technology are, from left, Devinder Mahajan, PhD; Stony Brook University President Samuel L. Stanley Jr.; SUNY Chancellor Kristina M. Johnson; Ken Daly, President of National Grid New York; and Robert Catell, Chairman of the Advanced Energy Center.

Stony Brook recently took another giant step in its commitment to a future that protects the environment with efficient, sustainable energy management. The University [announced](#) on Friday, Feb. 16, the formation of a new [Institute of Gas Innovation and Technology \(I-GIT\)](#), a consortium of industry and academic leaders focused on the development of new energy technologies designed to promote sustainability and save the environment.

Additionally, on behalf of SUNY [Chancellor Kristina Johnson](#), [President Stanley](#) recently [participated](#) in the [Second](#)

[Nature 2018 Higher Education Climate Leadership Summit](#) in Tempe, Ariz., an annual gathering of university presidents and other leaders focused on developing rapid climate change solutions.

[Up in Albany](#)
[On the Hill](#)
[In Our Community](#)

On the Hill

Engineer NY: Dean Advocates for Support to Meet Demand

[Fotis Sotiropoulos](#), Dean of the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences, met with members of the New York State legislature



(L-R): John Cameron, Fotis Sotiropoulos, Assemblyman Fred Theile, Rahul Alreja and Richard Humann.

in Albany to advocate for a new engineering building at Stony Brook University. Dean Sotiropoulos was joined by [John Cameron](#), CEO of Cameron Engineering & Associates of New York; [Rahul Alreja](#), President of VJ Inspection Services (SBU Alum '06); and [Richard Humann](#), President and CEO of H2M. The group met with [Senator John Flanagan](#), [Senator Ken LaValle](#), [Senator Phil Boyle](#), [Senator Tom Croci](#), [Assemblyman Steve Englebright](#), [Assemblyman Fred Thiele](#) and [Assemblyman Michael Fitzpatrick](#).

and oversee our technology-driven future. While we simply need more engineers and applied scientists to enable the U.S. to remain competitive in a global STEM driven economy, we also need a new paradigm for how we educate these students.

Vast numbers of new [engineers and applied scientists will be required](#) to invent, produce

The proposed new engineering buildings at Stony Brook University and the University at Buffalo will support the already significant growth in these programs while providing modern space for experiential learning, industrial quality labs, and an entrepreneurial maker space.

On the Hill

SPD Dean Ken Lindblom Meets with Congressional Staff in DC



Dean Ken Lindblom meeting with Morgan Brand, Higher Education Policy Staffer for Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, at Senator Schumer's office.

[Kenneth Lindblom](#), Dean of the [School of Professional Development \(SPD\)](#), was in Washington, DC, on February 15 to brief staff members from the Long Island Congressional Delegation on SPD program highlights and recent updates.

Lindblom had the opportunity to discuss SPD's degrees in human resource management and liberal studies as well as the school's expanded master of arts in liberal studies degree, which includes an updated curriculum. He also talked about the fact that SPD is the first [SUNY](#) institution to offer [digital badges](#) - online credentials that demonstrate achievement in a specific skill set, which are available in a variety of areas in education, business, industry and academics.

[Read the full story](#)

SBU Opposes PROSPER Act: Advocacy Efforts on Capitol Hill

Following a letter by President Stanley to the [U.S. House Committee on Education and the Workforce](#) and to the members of the Long Island Congressional Delegation, [Dr. Braden Hosch](#), Assistant Vice President of Institutional Research, Planning and Effectiveness, met with New York Delegation staff members in Washington, D.C. on February 21 to advocate against the [Promoting Real Opportunity, Success, and Prosperity through Education Reform \(PROSPER\) Act](#).

Working with Stony Brook's [Office of Government Relations](#), Dr. Hosch outlined the unacceptable [financial aid impact](#) of the PROSPER Act upon students. Dr. Hosch met with congressional education policy staff of [Rep. Lee Zeldin](#), [Rep. Peter King](#), [Rep. Dan Donovan](#), [Rep. John Katko](#) and [Rep. John Faso](#).

The Office of Government Relations continues to work on joint advocacy efforts with the [Association of American Universities](#) (AAU), the [Association of Public Land Grant Universities](#) (APLU) and the [American](#)



Dr. Braden J. Hosch, Assist. Vice President of Institutional Research, Planning and Effectiveness

In Our Community

Nontraditional Student "Plays It Forward" to Help Patients Through Music

Allison Van Cott believes in the power of music to heal. Van Cott initially got into Stony Brook in the '80s on a piano audition. However, she didn't stay at the University, choosing instead to teach piano lessons for children and to focus on raising her daughter. As a result, she never finished her undergraduate degree.

"I had decided to come back while my daughter was a senior here at Stony Brook. I was so excited, 'Oh my god, I'm going to college with my daughter,'" she said. "I had never felt more privileged and grateful to be able to have a second chance at being 18 again." But her initial return as a nontraditional student didn't last. After only two months, Van Cott needed to have emergency surgery that took her out of school for another two years. It was her hospital stay that further inspired and motivated her.



Allison Van Cott playing the piano at the hospital.

[Read the full story](#)

Experience the Summer Camps at Stony Brook



Know someone interested in journalism, music, or coding and computer science? Begin planning now and get ready to have some fun at camps happening this summer.

[Read more](#)

Stony Brook Launches Brookology for Employees

Faculty and staff have a new resource for getting connected to the campus and the community - [Brookology](#) is a curated website of Long Island featuring leisure-time activities, special shopping deals, information on social groups and a digital bulletin board. Whether you're looking for a pick-up volleyball game, find your perfect beach, want to sell a car or search for shopping discounts, Brookology offers the Stony Brook campus community options for fun, social and engaging activities.

[Read the full story](#)



Center Conducts First Visually Impaired Bleeding Control Training

On January 20, a [Bleeding Control Basic Course](#) for the visually impaired and blind, developed with the help of the [Trauma Center](#) at Stony Brook Medicine, was held at the West Islip Fire Department. A group of 26 people with visual impairments including complete blindness received



Volunteers and attendees participate in the training

training through this first-of-its-kind modified course.

The Bleeding Control Basic Course teaches those who have little or no medical training to stop uncontrolled bleeding when emergencies occur. This course was modified for those with less or no vision and encouraged them to utilize their sense of feel. With the assistance of sighted companions and guide dogs, attendees were able to complete the training successfully.

[Learn more](#)

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, March 6

[Art of the Violin Concert Series](#)

Tuesday, March 6

[Adventures in Orchestral Music Family Concert](#)

Wednesday, March 7

[My Life As a Speaker Series: Gretchen Carlson](#)

Saturday, March 10

[Men's Lacrosse vs Virginia](#)

Sunday, March 11

[MET Opera - Live in HD - Semiramide](#)

Wednesday, March 14

[2018 Women's Leadership Symposium](#)

Saturday, March 17

[Women's Lacrosse vs Towson](#)

Wednesday, March 28

[Center for Italian Studies Presentation: John Phillips, former U.S. Ambassador to Italy](#)

[Full Stony Brook events calendar](#)

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