



# CAPITOLS *and* COMMUNITIES



NEWS FROM THE OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS

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## Two Stony Brook Researchers Receive Energy Frontier Research Center Awards Totaling \$21.75M



*Esther Sans Takeuchi*



*John Parise*

Stony Brook University has received notification from the U.S. Department of Energy ([DOE](#)) that two proposals directed by SBU faculty to expand or develop Energy Frontier Research Centers ([EFRCs](#)) designed to accelerate scientific breakthroughs needed to strengthen U.S. economic leadership and energy security will receive funding totaling \$21.75 million.

The two Stony Brook EFRCs are the Center for Mesoscale Transport Properties ([m2M](#)), led by renowned energy storage researcher, [Esther Takeuchi](#), PhD, which will receive a four-year \$12 million grant for the existing center; and the creation of a

new EFRC, A Next Generation Synthesis Center (GENESIS) led by [John Parise](#), PhD, which will receive a four-year \$9.75 million grant.

The awards are part of the DOE's [announcement](#) of \$100 million to fund 42 EFRCs; Stony Brook University is one of only three universities to receive funding for two EFRCs. The two EFRC awards will also receive \$1.75 million in New York State matching funds.

[Read the full story](#)

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### Up in Albany

Governor to SUNY & CUNY:  
Stay the Course on Diversity in Admissions

[Governor Andrew Cuomo](#) released an [open letter](#) to [SUNY Board of Trustees](#) Chair [H. Carl McCall](#) and CUNY Board of Trustees Chair



*Governor Andrew Cuomo and President Donald Trump  
(Photo source: RayTribune)*

William C. Thompson, Jr. directing them to maintain their diversity and inclusion plans after the Trump administration [rescinded guidelines](#) on using race in college admissions.

The letter directs the Chairs to continue existing policies that promote racial diversity and inclusion and to prepare a report by August 15, 2018 on how they will further expand and increase diversity on campuses. "New York's two university systems have long been bastions of diversity and engines of social mobility," Governor Cuomo stated in his letter. "In this state, we embrace diversity and we encourage it. I am directing you to reexamine your existing plans to ensure these plans are furthering New

York's goals of diversity and inclusion."

President Samuel L. Stanley, Jr. released a [letter to the campus community](#) that applauds the Governor for staying the course and outlines Stony Brook's commitment to diversity. Stony Brook University has a deep and long-standing commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion that encompasses a broad definition of diversity with a focus on race, ethnicity, age, gender, religion, ability, veteran status, socioeconomic level and sexual orientation," said President Stanley.

The [Stony Brook Undergraduate Student Government](#) also opposed the Trump administration changes in a separate [written statement](#).

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## On the Hill

### SBU Researchers Network with DoD Leadership and SUNY Colleagues at SUNY DoD DC Day



*DoD Program Directors meet with  
SUNY researchers during SUNY  
DoD DC Day.*

Twenty-one Stony Brook University researchers attended [SUNY](#) DoD DC Day, an exclusive and interactive networking event held in June that brought together nearly 90 outstanding researchers across eight SUNY campuses to meet with 25 senior leaders and program managers from the [Department of Defense \(DoD\)](#). Faculty were also able to meet with other SUNY colleagues in productive collaboration sessions throughout the day.

[Read the full story](#)

### Director of SBU National Security Institute Discusses Cyber-security Research with Congressional Members and Staff

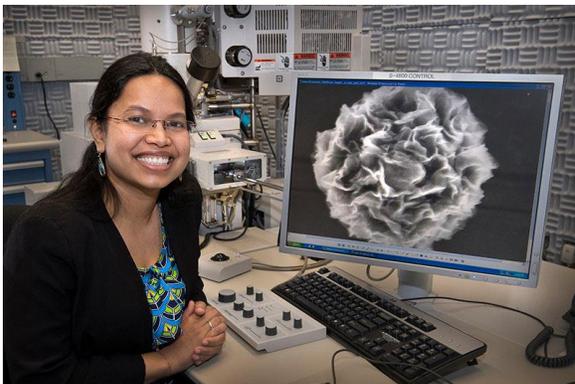
Associate Professor of Computer Science [Radu Sion](#), Director of Stony Brook University's [National Security Institute \(NSI\)](#), met with members of Congress and their staff on July 17 to discuss the importance of federal funding for cyber-security research in addition to the critical value that international researchers and students bring to the field of cyber-security.

[Read the full story](#)



*Professor Radu Sion and  
Congressman Paul Tonko*

### BNL-Stony Brook Joint Outreach Exposes Young Women to Nanoscience



*Shruti Sharma in a scanning electron microscopy (SEM) lab at the Center for Functional Nanomaterials.*

Opportunities to experience what scientists do were few and far between for Shruti Sharma while growing up in India. This lack of early exposure to hands-on science activities contributed to Sharma--now a fifth-year PhD candidate graduating this summer from the [Department of Materials Science and Chemical Engineering](#) in the [College of Engineering and Applied Sciences](#) at Stony Brook University and a guest researcher at the U.S. Department of Energy's ([DOE](#)) [Brookhaven National Laboratory](#)--becoming involved in educational outreach. Since her undergraduate years, she has been mentoring K-12 and undergraduate students through various science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) programs.

[Read the full story](#)

## In Our Community

### Stony Brook - Brentwood Collaboration Will Give Teachers Hands-On Professional Development Training

Stony Brook University and Brentwood Union Free School District have received a competitive New York State Education grant of \$225,000 from the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) for the Mathematics and Science Partnerships (MSP).

Professor [Dianna K. Padilla](#) and Associate Professor [Ross Nehm](#) from the Department of Ecology and Evolution will work with Distinguished Professor [Miriam Rafailovich](#) and Assistant Professor [Taejin Kim](#) from the Department of [Materials Science and Chemical Engineering](#) to integrate aspects of engineering with ecology. Brentwood Middle School and High School teachers participating in the Scientist and Teachers Engaging in Professional Development with University Personnel (STEPD-UP) program will work in conjunction with Stony Brook University personnel to engage in hands-on learning about Long Island's salt marshes and marine ecosystems, dovetailing Engineering Design standards with Matter and Energy in Organisms and Ecosystems.



*Dianna Padilla and Maria Rosa from Ecology and Evolution with students at Flax Pond Marine Laboratory, an excellent training location that will now be used for the teacher training.*

[Read the full story](#)

## Staller Center Announces 2018-2019 Season



SEASON 2018-19  
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STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY  
STALLER  
CENTER FOR THE ARTS

An exciting variety of dance companies, music genres of all kinds, a cirque extravaganza, a theatrical creation featuring the Emerson String Quartet, and the 2019 Gala with opera star Renée Fleming are among the many performances coming to the Staller Center for the Arts in its 2018-2019 season.

Metropolitan Opera in HD, fall and spring movies, and Stephen Sondheim's "Follies" from London's National Theatre will all be featured on the Main Stage screen. Educational outreach events are also offered, such as a one-hour program for children - Turtle Island Quartet's "The Art of the Groove."

[Read the full story](#)

## Hospital Program Puts Health Care Professions Within Reach for Local Students

Kristina Gonzalez witnessed first-hand the birth of a newborn boy this spring when the high school senior shadowed Brian Hunt, MD, an assistant professor in the Department of Obstetrics/Gynecology at [Stony Brook Medicine](#).

Her life-altering experience is the goal of the academic [HOPE](#) (Health Occupations Partnership for Excellence) program, which is part of Stony Brook Medicine's Health Initiative for Underserved Communities. HOPE promotes and fosters the development of promising Long Island high school students from the ethnically and racially diverse districts of Brentwood, Longwood and Wyandanch, and strives to support them in pursuing a college education and future careers in the health-care industry.



*HOPE program students shadow medical personnel while making rounds in the hospital.*

[Read the full story](#)

## Stony Brook Launches First Online Team Shop

Seawolves fans can now easily access their favorite teams' merchandise through the new online team shop: [SeawolvesTeamShop.com](#). With just the click of a button, fans from anywhere in the world are now able to buy their favorite team's branded merchandise and show their Seawolf pride.

[Read more](#)

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## Upcoming Events

**Now through September 12, 2018**

[Hidden Symmetries Exhibiton: Pre-Columbian art from Tony Phillips collection of mathematical textiles](#)

Simons Center Gallery

**August 7, 2018**

[Simons Center Free Summer Concert Series](#)

Simons center for Geometry and Physics

**August 16, 2018**

[Concert Under the Stars and Laser Light Show](#)

Long Island State Veterans Home

**August 28, 2018**

[Give Kids a Smile Free Dental Screening](#)

South Campus: School of Dental Medicine

**September 14 & 15, 2018**

[2018 Fall Food Lab Conference: Eat Global...Cook Local](#)

Stony Brook Southampton

**September 22, 2018**

[CommUniversity Day - free family festival](#)

[Full Stony Brook events calendar](#)

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