



CAPITOLS *and* COMMUNITIES



NEWS FROM THE OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Hailing Increased Graduation Rate, President Delivers 2018 State of the University Address

Stony Brook University [President Samuel L. Stanley Jr.](#) delivered his ninth State of the University address on October 3, expressing appreciation to administrators, faculty and staff for their hard work and dedication and reinforcing the University's commitment to excellence and innovation.



President Stanley Delivers the 2018 State of the University Address

After acknowledging elected representatives and public officials in attendance, and members of the Stony Brook Council, President Stanley shared the past year's highlights and milestones, including completing the most successful [fundraising campaign](#) in SUNY's history. He spoke of Stony Brook's increasingly positive impact on Long Island's economy, the year-over-year rise in student enrollment and graduation rates, and an expanding Stony Brook University Hospital landscape.

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In the Spotlight

Justice Sotomayor Visits with Stony Brook Students



Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor shares inspirational life advice while speaking to Stony Brook University freshmen. (Credit: Newsday / Raychel Brightman)

about 3,000 students who filled the Island Federal Credit Union Arena. "I knew that that's how I had to measure my success. That I had walked with them and never left anybody behind. That will be the measure of your success, especially for those of you who are first generation in college or for those of you who move away from home," she said. "Learning how to stay in touch and learning how to make sure that you realize that it's not your journey alone. That will measure the kind of person you'll be."

Freshmen students were required to read Sotomayor's memoir, "My Beloved World," which recounts her life, from growing up in a Bronx housing project to being confirmed as an associate justice in August 2009. Obama had nominated her the previous May.

[Read the full story](#)

Supreme Court Justice [Sonia Sotomayor](#) stressed the vital importance of appreciating family and friends in speaking to Stony Brook University freshmen on October 17.

When she was sworn in as the first Latina on the high court nine years ago, Sotomayor recalled, she was deeply moved by the presence not only of President Barack Obama and Vice President Joe Biden, but all the people who had been a part of her life through the years. "They were there. And they had walked the journey of my life with me, and as a part of me," Sotomayor, 64, told

Up in Albany

Senator LaValle & Assemblyman Thiele Announce \$500,000 to help restore Southampton Hall



(L-R) Assemblyman Fred Thiele, Robert Reeves and Senator Ken LaValle

[Senator Ken LaValle](#) and [Assemblyman Fred Thiele](#) recently met with [Robert Reeves, Associate Provost](#), Southampton Graduate Arts to discuss \$500,000 they secured in the state budget to help renovate Southampton Hall at the [Stony Brook Southampton](#) campus. This funding comes on top of \$5 million they secured in the previous budget.

In addition to the campus' 300 year old wind mill, Southampton Hall is a historic campus feature which, when fully renovated, will be the home of Stony Brook Southampton's Center for Creativity.

NYSERDA Report Shows Job

Growth in State's Clean Energy Sector

According to a 2018 [report](#) recently issued by Alicia Barton, President & CEO of [NYSERDA](#), New York State "saw 5,686 new clean energy jobs, an increase of 3.9%" over the past year bringing the total number of clean energy jobs in the state to 151,000. Nearly 3,800 indirect and induced jobs such as construction, administrative support, legal services, etc. were also created that are now supporting the industry. Since 2015, clean energy employment has grown by 10,501 jobs with the largest growth among energy efficiency firms, according to the report.

Stony Brook University's [Advanced Energy Center](#) which works closely with NYSERDA, specializes in collaborations between academic researchers and businesses to help foster economic development on Long Island and across the state focusing on efficiency, conservation, renewable energy and nanotechnology applications for new and novel sources of energy.

On the Hill

President Stanley Urges Continued Work for Gender Parity at HeForShe Summit



President Stanley is joined by students and campus leaders at the 2018 HeForShe IMPACT Summit.

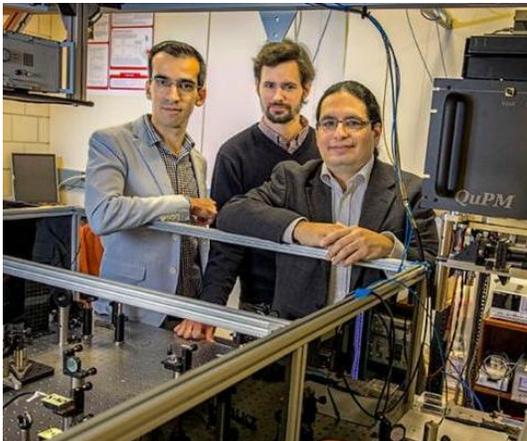
President Samuel L. Stanley Jr. took the University's mission to create a safe, empowered and equitable campus culture for all to an international level on Wednesday, Sept. 26.

Since 2015, President Stanley has served as one of 10 university [HeForShe](#) Impact Champions, fostering gender equity as part of the UN Women HeForShe movement. The annual HeForShe 10x10x10 IMPACT Summit brings together 10 heads of state,

10 corporate leaders and 10 university presidents for a concentrated discussion on ways to combat gender disparity. This year's event featured several world leaders including Guðni Thorlacius Jóhannesson, president of Iceland; Sauli Niinistö, president of Finland; Peter Mutharika, president of Malawi; and Queen Rania Al-Abdullah of Jordan, along with UN Goodwill Ambassador and actress Anne Hathaway and actor and activist Winston Duke.

[Read the full story](#); [view](#) Stony Brook's chapter of the Emerging Solutions Report; and [watch highlights](#).

Quantum Memory Applications Can Help Fight Hackers



Researchers at Stony Brook have developed a technology and prototype device to prevent network hacking. (L-R): Mehdi Namazi; PhD student Mael Flament; and Eden Figueroa, PhD.

In the search for more secure communications technologies designed to prevent hacking, a team of researchers in Stony Brook University's [Department of Physics and Astronomy](#) created a technology that uses quantum memory applications at room temperatures to securely store and transfer information. Through the Research Foundation for the State University of New York, the Stony Brook-developed technology is licensed to [Qunnect](#), LLC, which will further develop the technology to create cybersecure quantum communication networks.

[Read the full story](#)

Dávalos Wins NSF "Rules of Life" Award

[Liliana M.](#)

[Dávalos](#), an associate professor in the [Department of Ecology and Evolution](#), has been named a recipient of the [National Science Foundation](#) Award for "[Understanding the Rules of Life](#)." Dávalos' award-winning research addresses the "Genomics of exceptions to scaling of longevity to body size."

Her project is funded through NSF's Early-concept Grants for Exploratory Research (EAGER) program and represents exploratory work in its early stages on untested but potentially transformative research ideas or approaches.

[Read the full story](#)



Liliana M. Dávalos

In Our Community

Thousands of Smiles at CommUniversity Day

Stony Brook University welcomed the community to campus at CommUniversity Day on Saturday, September 22. The free festival gave the audience of roughly 3,500 friends, employees, families and students a chance to explore many interactive, hands-on activities and captivating performances coordinated through more than 300 University volunteers.

Many different departments and groups from the campus were represented with nearly 110 tables showcasing health, safety, arts, traditions, food and technology. With such a wide variety of activities, there was something for every age and interest. The Academic Mall held themed clusters of activities as employees and students proudly shared a glimpse into their work and studies.



Students from the School of Dental Medicine with President Stanley.

[Read the full story](#)

Homecoming 2018 Welcomes Alumni and Friends Back to Campus



At the 2018 Homecoming, Stony Brook welcomed alumni, faculty, students, neighbors and friends for a full day of fun including alumni events and the Homecoming BBQ. Attendees witnessed a record-breaking Seawolves victory against the Rhode Island Rams! In addition, Stony Brook [changed the rules](#) for its homecoming court and [elected three students](#), regardless of gender, as Stony Brook Royals.

[Read more about Homecoming 2018](#) and SBU's [all-gender approach](#) for homecoming court.

Stony Brook University's Red Watch Band Wins Prestigious Award

Stony Brook's Red Watch Band CARE Team recently won the [Caron Foundation's](#) Community



MDRed Watch Band CARE team

Youth Leadership Award. The foundation cited the team's robust training program, fun alternatives to drinking, and demonstration of positive coping mechanisms as reasons for nomination. Red Watch Band (RWB) is a bystander intervention program that teaches students how to prevent toxic drinking deaths. The group is managed by the Center for Prevention and Outreach (CPO).

[Read the full story](#)

Undergrads at Turkana Basin Institute

Use Ancient Dig Sites as Laboratory

Four years ago, Lucia Muzzarelli '19 was drawn to Stony Brook University because of its reputation for world-class science programs and ample research opportunities. So when she heard a lecture about the Turkana Basin Institute (TBI) in northern Kenya during freshman year, she knew she had to go there.

Since 2005, when legendary paleoanthropologist [Richard Leakey](#) [partnered with Stony Brook](#) to create the [Turkana Basin Institute](#) and field school, TBI has been a hub of research and education for Stony Brook students and staff, international researchers and Kenyan locals. Discoveries in the area have given the scientific community greater insight into the Earth's formation, human evolution and behavior, climate change and more.

[Read the full story](#)



Researchers from Stony Brook University team up with local Kenyan scientists and students for fieldwork at the Turkana Basin.

Upcoming Events

Thursday, November 1, 2018

[Hispanic Heritage Month Closing Ceremony](#)

Monday, November 5, 2018

[Veterans Awareness Week Film Screening: The Great War](#)

Wednesday, November 7, 2018

[WolfieTank Entrepreneur Pitch Competition](#)

Wednesday, November 7, 2018

[Stony Brook Southampton Writers Speak Series: Jonathan Santlofer](#)

Saturday, November 10, 2018

[Seawolves Football vs. Delaware](#)

Saturday, November 10, 2018

[Follies: London's National Theatre Production of the Stephen Sondheim Musical](#)

Wednesday, November 14, 2018

[The People's Struggle Influences Art: Celebrating Amiri Baraka's Cultural Aesthetic](#)

Wednesday, November 14, 2018

[Native American Heritage Month Open House](#)

Sunday, November 18, 2018

[Inside Song: A Staller Center Outreach Event - Interactive children's drumming, singing and dancing](#)

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