The Inauguration of
MAURIE McINNIS

SIXTH PRESIDENT
OF STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2021
ACADEMIC PROCESSION
Amityville American Legion Pipe Band
Grand Marshal Richard Larson, President, University Senate
Delegates
Alumni Association Board of Directors and Past Presidents
Faculty
Emeritus Faculty
University Senate Executive Committee
University Council
Stony Brook Council
Platform Party

POSTING OF THE COLORS
State University of New York Police

NATIONAL ANTHEM
Rosemaria Martinelli, Vice President for Strategic Initiatives
Christina Dahl, Professor of Piano and Chair, Department of Music

WELCOME
Kevin S. Law, Chair, Stony Brook Council

TRADITIONAL WELCOME
Chief Harry Wallace, Unkechaug Nation

GREETINGS TO THE PRESIDENT
The Honorable Carl Heastie, Speaker, New York State Assembly
Richard L. Gelfond, Chair, Stony Brook Foundation
Cary F. Staller, Board of Trustees Member, State University of New York

Richard Larson
Kimberly Joy Dixon, Director, Employer Engagement and Diversity Recruitment
Manjot Singh, President, Undergraduate Student Government

MUSICAL INTERLUDE
Stony Brook Gospel Choir, Lift Up Your Voices, Sunday Service Choir

REMARKS
Edward L. Ayers, University Professor and President Emeritus, University of Richmond

INVESTITURE
Jim Malatras, Chancellor, State University of New York
Cary F. Staller
Merryl H. Tisch, Chair, Board of Trustees, State University of New York

INAUGURAL ADDRESS
Maurie McInnis, President, Stony Brook University

PRESENTATION OF MACE
Ahmed Belazi, President, Alumni Association

CLOSING REMARKS
Kevin S. Law

Reception immediately following the ceremony.
Maurie McInnis — a renowned cultural historian of the nineteenth-century American South — became the sixth president of Stony Brook University on July 1, 2020. As chief executive for Stony Brook, she also oversees Stony Brook Medicine, Long Island’s premier academic medical center, which encompasses five health sciences schools, four hospitals and 200 community-based healthcare settings.

Since her arrival at Stony Brook, President McInnis has been focused on helping the institution to achieve greater financial sustainability, enhancing collaborations between the university and Stony Brook Medicine as one campus, and developing greater appreciation for the special role Stony Brook plays as an Association of American Universities institution within the state and State University of New York system.

Before coming to Stony Brook, she served four years as executive vice president and provost at the University of Texas (UT) at Austin. Prior to that, she spent nearly 20 years at the University of Virginia in various academic and administrative appointments, ultimately as the vice provost for academic affairs.

One of President McInnis’ most significant accomplishments at UT was broadening interdisciplinary collaboration in education and research across the entire university. At Stony Brook, she is creating opportunities for students to engage in important, real-world research while bringing economic growth to the region through the university’s partnership with nearby Brookhaven National Laboratory, a U.S. Department of Energy facility.

President McInnis has published extensively, and her academic scholarship has focused on the relationship between art and politics in early America, especially on the politics of slavery. She has brought to Stony Brook her humanist values, among them her conviction that institutes of higher learning should use their expertise and influence to address major societal problems. As such, she is deeply committed to the mission of public research universities.

Her publications have received numerous awards. Her first book, *The Politics of Taste in Antebellum Charleston*, received the Spiro Kostof Award by the Society of Architectural Historians (among others). *Slaves Waiting for Sale: Abolitionist Art and the American Slave Trade*, published in 2011, received the Charles C. Eldredge Book Prize from the Smithsonian American Art Museum as well as the Library of Virginia Literary Award for nonfiction. Her most recent book is *Educated in Tyranny: Slavery at Thomas Jefferson’s University*.

Equity, diversity, and inclusion in higher education have been careerlong priorities for President McInnis, and she has a demonstrated track record in fostering significant advancement in these areas. At Stony Brook, she has assembled a team that reflects diverse talent and people with varying viewpoints and areas of expertise different from her own. She seeks to strengthen Stony Brook’s impact in driving intergenerational socioeconomic growth and preparing students for success after graduation.

President McInnis received a bachelor’s degree with highest distinction in art history from the University of Virginia, and a master’s degree and PhD in art history from Yale University. President McInnis focuses much of her free time on her family. She and her husband, Dean, have two children, a dog and a cat. In her spare time, she enjoys photography, traveling, museums, performing arts and kayaking.
Established in 1957 as a college for the preparation of secondary school teachers of mathematics and science, Stony Brook University has grown from a small campus with a scattering of temporary geodesic domes at Planting Fields in Oyster Bay, New York, to a bustling main campus in Stony Brook encompassing nearly 1,040 acres. With campuses in Stony Brook and Southampton, New York; affiliated locations in Manhattan; and a partnership with the State University of New York in Korea, Stony Brook has become a far-reaching center of academic excellence. SBU consistently ranks high as one of the top public universities in the United States.

With approximately 27,000 students who hail from more than 100 countries and all 50 states, its diverse academic portfolio consists of 12 schools and colleges, and it offers 200-plus undergraduate majors, minors and combined-degree programs. Fostering a commitment to academic research and intellectual endeavors, Stony Brook became a member of the invitation-only Association of American Universities in 2001, placing it among North America’s leading research institutions.

It has more than 2,500 faculty, many of whom have earned esteemed awards such as the Nobel Prize, Pulitzer Prize, Indianapolis Prize for animal conservation,
Abel Prize, MacArthur Genius Award and the inaugural Breakthrough Prize in Mathematics, to name a few. University faculty are responsible for nearly 2,500 inventions and more than 750 U.S. patents. Landmark discoveries include the MRI technology that won the Nobel Prize for Medicine, uncovering the cause of Lyme disease and detecting supergravity.

SBU has extensive research experience in many areas. It is part of the management team of Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL), a U.S. Department of Energy research facility, and one of only eight universities with a role in running a national laboratory. BNL and Stony Brook also collaborate with Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, one of the world’s pre-eminent private research institutes.

The university’s state-of-the-art facilities are integral to its research endeavors: They include the Medical and Research Translation building, an environment for researchers and doctors to collaborate, investigate and innovate in developing breakthrough cancer medicines, treatments and cures; the Center of Excellence in Wireless and Information Technology, a test bed for emerging wireless technologies; and the Advanced Energy Research and Technology Center, where researchers
develop technologies to produce clean energy. Upcoming campus projects include the Innovation and Discovery Center, designed to accommodate companies graduating from startup incubators, as well as the construction of the 61,000-square-foot Institute for Engineering-Driven Medicine.

Stony Brook’s world-class institutes further humankind’s understanding of its origins and offer solutions to some of Earth’s most vexing issues. The Turkana Basin Institute in Kenya — the site of groundbreaking fossil discoveries — was established by noted paleoanthropologists and faculty members Richard and Meave Leakey. The Institute for the Conservation of Tropical Environments in Madagascar melds science-based conservation and research. It maintains Centre ValBio, a research station guided by an international consortium of institutions that uphold it as a model for scientific research and training.

SBU’s academic medical center and healthcare system, Stony Brook Medicine, integrates education, research and patient care. It has a robust, clinically integrated network and encompasses five health sciences schools and four hospitals, as well as a cancer center, heart institute, neurosciences institute and 200-plus community-based healthcare settings throughout Suffolk County. Stony Brook Medicine conducts cutting-edge research and trains the next generation of healthcare providers, in addition to serving as a safety net hospital that provides healthcare to anyone in need.

The university is also a recognized leader in promoting intergenerational social mobility. It has a proven track record for access, student success among diverse and low-income students, and for supporting first-generation college students and Pell Grant recipients.

In a little less than 65 years, Stony Brook has transformed into one of the world’s foremost centers of learning and scholarship — a powerful incubator of teaching and research innovation as well as a driving engine for the Long Island economy, fulfilling the mandate given by the State Board of Regents in 1960 to become a university that would “stand with the finest in the country.”
Academic Traditions

When a president of a university is inaugurated, the celebration features a colorful procession and many long-standing traditions, some dating back to medieval times. Others, like those at Stony Brook University, feature elements that reflect an institution’s youth and personality.

ACADEMIC REGALIA
The robes worn by the participants in the procession vary, depending on a representative’s academic affiliation. At Stony Brook, baccalaureate and master’s degree graduates have worn red gowns since 2008, while regalia worn by American scholars typically are black. The style of the hood and cut of the gown reflect the highest degree earned by the wearer. In addition to a velvet edging, hoods are lined in the colors of the institution. The costume of those in the academic procession has a specific symbolism that dates to at least the 14th century. U.S. academic institutions adopted a code of dress in 1895 that has been revised from time to time, such as standardizing the practice of trimming hoods with color and designating disciplines with specific hues, such as pink for music.

UNIVERSITY SEAL
Undergoing a makeover in 2012, Stony Brook’s seal contains a star; a shield, representing tradition and strength and unifying the hospital and the medicine campus with the university; and five rays, which reflect an upward trajectory illustrating the momentum of a Stony Brook University education and how it could improve lives and change the world. Traditionally, a seal is reserved for special events and represents an institution’s heritage.

PRESIDENTIAL MEDALLION
Stony Brook’s presidential medallion is silver and inscribed with the words *Let each become all he is capable of being*, an adaptation of a quote from British essayist Thomas Carlyle. It features images from the New York State seal, including an eagle, sun, mountain and water, as well as a banner with the New York State motto, *Excelsior*, Latin for “Ever Upward.” A symbol of the office the president has been called to serve, the presidential medallion is worn in all academic processions and other ceremonial occasions. The tradition dates to the Middle Ages, when chains or collars were worn as badges of office.

UNIVERSITY MACE
The university mace is made of fine Honduran mahogany with a silver collar. A symbol of scholarship and integrity, a university’s mace is carried before the president or chancellor and platform-party dignitaries. It is used to lead the academic procession at commencement and other special occasions, signifying the importance of the event and officially sanctioning the proceedings. Historically, it is a symbol of authority dating from medieval times when knights carried them during processions with their kings.
GRAND MARSHAL
Richard Larson, President,
University Senate

NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY
The Honorable Carl Heastie, Speaker

STONY BROOK COUNCIL
Kevin S. Law, Chair

STONY BROOK FOUNDATION
Richard L. Gelfond, Chair

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK TRUSTEES
Merryl H. Tisch, Chair
Cary F. Staller
Keith Landa

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK ADMINISTRATION
Jim Malatras, Chancellor

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Harold Paz, Executive Vice President for Health Sciences
Judith B. Greiman, Chief Deputy to the President and Senior Vice President for Government and Community Relations
Richard Gatteau, Vice President for Student Affairs
Rosemaria Martinelli, Vice President for Strategic Initiatives

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Marilyn H. Simons, Co-Chair and President, MJS Foundation

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Brad Walker, Commissioner

COLD SPRING HARBOR LABORATORY
Bruce Stillman, President and Chief Executive Officer

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
Ahmed Belazi, President

GRADUATE STUDENT ORGANIZATION
Claran Joel Martis, President

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT ORGANIZATION
Manjot Singh, President

HONORED GUESTS
Edward L. Ayers, University Professor and President Emeritus, University of Richmond
Kimberly Joy Dixon, Director of Employer Engagement and Diversity Recruitment
Chief Harry Wallace, Unkechaug Nation
Delegates

Harvard University, founded 1636
Heather J. Lynch, Alumna

Yale University, founded 1701
Kymberly Pinder, Stavros Niarchos Foundation Dean, Yale School of Art

University of Pennsylvania, founded 1740
Erik D. Gershwind, Alumnus and Member, Board of Advisors of University Libraries

Princeton University, founded 1746
Vincent J. Silverio, Alumnus

Rutgers University, founded 1766
Jonathan Holloway, President

University of Virginia, founded 1819
Louis Nelson, Vice Provost for Academic Outreach

Indiana University, founded 1820
Jason Vishnick, Doctor of Jurisprudence

State University of New York at Fredonia, founded 1826
Patrick Farrell, Alumnus

New York University, founded 1831
Natalya Pasklinsky, Executive Director of Simulation Learning, Rory Meyers College of Nursing

State University of New York at Brockport, founded 1835
Roosevelt Mareus, Dean and Executive Director, Rochester Educational Opportunity Center

Emory University, founded 1836
Gregory Fenves, President

Duke University, founded 1838
Sheree Cooper Levy, Alumna

State University of New York at Albany, founded 1844
Havidan Rodriguez, President

State University of New York at Buffalo, founded 1846
Satish K. Tripathi, President

University of Rochester, founded 1850
Sarah C. Mangelsdorf, President

Georgia Institute of Technology, founded 1885
Michael Ehrlich, Alumnus

California Institute of Technology, founded 1891
Edmund Kar-Man Chang, Alumnus

State University of New York at Farmingdale, founded 1912
John Nader, President

The New School, founded 1919
Dwight McBride, President

Hofstra University, founded 1935
Susan Poser, President

Molloy College, founded 1955
Michelle Piskulich, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Suffolk County Community College, founded 1959
Edward T. Bonahue, President

State University of New York College at Old Westbury, founded 1965
Timothy Sams, President

State University of New York Polytechnic Institute, founded 1966
Ronald Sarner, Distinguished Service Professor

State University of New York at Purchase, founded 1967
Milagros Peña, President

State University of New York Empire State College, founded 1971
Rebecca Bonanno, Associate Professor
UNIVERSITY COUNCIL

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Maurie McInnis, President
Paul Goldbart, Executive Vice President and Provost
Harold Paz, Executive Vice President for Health Sciences
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Stacy Jaffee Gropack, School of Health Technology and Management
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Nicole Sampson, College of Arts and Sciences
Paul Shepson, School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences
William Wertheim, Interim Dean, Renaissance School of Medicine
Eric Wertheimer, Vice Provost for Graduate and Professional Education and Dean of The Graduate School
Annette Wysocki, School of Nursing

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Alan Tucker, Vice President, College of Engineering and Applied Sciences Senate
Ed Quinn, SUNY (State-Wide) Senator
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Nancy Rauch Douzinas, Treasurer
Maurie McInnis, Ex-Officio Voting Trustee

Continued
Presidential Search Committee

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Kevin S. Law, Chair, Stony Brook Council

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Kimberly Joy Dixon, Member of the Professional/Support Staff, Career Center
Axel Drees, Faculty Representative, Physics and Astronomy
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Brooke Ellison PhD ’12, Faculty Representative, Health and Rehabilitation Sciences
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Christopher Hahn, Stony Brook Council
Shaheer Kahn, Undergraduate Student Representative
Father Alex Karloutsos, Stony Brook Council
Celia Marshik, Faculty Representative, English
I. Memming Park, Faculty Representative, Neurobiology and Behavior
Clint Rubin, Faculty Representative, Biomedical Engineering
Nicole Sampson, Dean, College of Arts and Sciences
James H. Simons, Hon. ’92, Stony Brook Foundation
President Harvey Stenger, Binghamton University, Chancellor’s Designee
Christina Vargas ’90, MA ’93, Alumni Representative
Xiaoqing Zhang, Graduate Student Representative

**CAMPUS LIAISON**
Judith B. Greiman

**CAMPUS SUPPORT STAFF**
Rachel Cavanagh

**CHANCELLOR’S STAFF**
Zulaika Rodriguez
Paul Patton
Past Presidents

Samuel L. Stanley Jr., MD 2009–2019
President Stanley was a champion of NYSUNY 2020 legislation, which helped Stony Brook hire more than 240 new faculty over five years. He prioritized fundraising and had the most successful year in the university’s history, anchored by a gift from Jim and Marilyn Simons and the Simons Foundation — the sixth-largest gift to a public university ever recorded. He served as one of 10 university HeforShe Impact Champions, fostering gender equity as part of the global UN Women HeForShe movement. He committed to improving social mobility and supported Stony Brook’s Educational Opportunity Program, which helps economically disadvantaged students graduate.

Shirley Strum Kenny 1994–2009
President Kenny was the first woman and humanist to serve as president of Stony Brook University. After a distinguished career as a literary scholar, teacher and academic administrator, she came to Stony Brook, where she strengthened the core academic and research operations of the university, fostered close links with business and industry, and established new working relationships with the Long Island community. President Kenny launched and chaired the Boyer Commission on Educating Undergraduates in the Research University with funding from the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.

President Marburger’s arrival to Stony Brook coincided with the opening of University Medical Center and the development of the biological sciences as a major strength of Stony Brook. During his tenure, federally sponsored scientific research at Stony Brook grew to exceed that of any other public university in the Northeast. In 1998, President Marburger became director of Brookhaven National Laboratory and president of Brookhaven Science Associates. He also served U.S. President George W. Bush as science advisor and director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy.
John S. Toll 1965–1978

President Toll was a Princeton University-trained physicist. By the end of his presidency at Stony Brook, the university had undergone exponential growth, from 1,800 students in 1965 to 17,000 students in 1978. In addition to arts and sciences and engineering, President Toll added schools of public affairs, medicine, dentistry, nursing, allied health professions, basic health sciences and social work. He recruited elite researchers and scholars, among them, Nobel Prize recipient C.N. Yang, to develop competitive academic departments.

John Lee 1961

John Lee — a former chair of the Mechanical Engineering Department at North Carolina State University — was appointed as the university’s first president on January 1, 1961. He was given a mandate from the State University of New York to convert the Long Island Center from a science and engineering college to a full-scale university, complete with liberal arts and sciences programs and a graduate school. On June 25, 1961, the university held its first commencement ceremony, awarding 25 bachelor of science degrees at the Coe Estate in Oyster Bay, New York.
Acknowledgments

ANNOUNCER
Marianna Savoca, Assistant Vice President for Career Development and Experiential Education

MUSICAL PERFORMANCE
Stony Brook Brass Ensemble, Department of Music
Peter Auricchio, trumpet
Culley Hamstra, trombone
Daniel Jones, trumpet
Taylor Peterson, bass trombone
Shondra Texeira, horn

MUSICAL INTERLUDE
Stony Brook Gospel Choir, Lift Up Your Voices, Sunday Service Choir
Rehanna Bertram
Chloe Cameron
Inaya Champion
Angelina Gill
Katelynn Heredia
Kemoy Hutchinson
Dezmen Jenkins-Sierra
Kenna Numa
Chrisanne Pearce
Tanecia Sears
Alexandra Vinnikora
Sophie Vollmer

Land Recognition

Stony Brook University resides on the ancestral, traditional and contemporary lands of the aboriginal territory of the “people of the heart” known as Setauket, or Setalcott. We acknowledge federally, state and locally recognized tribes, who live here now and those who were forcibly removed from their homelands. In offering this land acknowledgment, we affirm Indigenous sovereignty, history and experiences.