



Stony Brook University College of Arts and Sciences

Endowed Economics Department Chair Stony Brook University Position Description

Stony Brook University seeks nominations and confidential expressions of interest in the search for the inaugural Endowed Economics Chair. Reporting to the Dean of the College of Arts of Sciences, the Chair will have the opportunity to grow the Department of Economics, known nationally and internationally for its excellence in Game Theory and Microeconomic Theory, Macroeconomics, and Applied Econometrics. A transformational gift of \$25 million from one of the Department's esteemed graduates will give the Chair the opportunity to strengthen the national and global relevance of the Department's research mission, particularly in the areas of Applied Economics and Public Policy, to attract and diversify faculty researchers, to strengthen gender and ethnic diversity in the PhD program, and to build and encourage interdisciplinary research collaborations. Ultimately, the new Chair is expected to elevate the Department's standing in national rankings.

The University

Stony Brook University is a member of the Association of American Universities (AAU) and is formally designated as a flagship university within the State of New York (SUNY) system. The University enrolls nearly 27,000 students, employs more than 15,000 individuals, and has a \$3.5 billion budget. The University is ranked among the top 25 public universities in the Forbes Top College rankings, 2021; is one of the "Top 100 National Universities" according to *U.S. News & World Report Best Colleges, 2021*; and is among the top 10 most diverse universities in the nation according to *QS U.S. University Rankings, 2021*. Stony Brook University is the



number one U.S. university for reducing inequalities in higher education, according to Times Higher Education University Impact Rankings, 2020. With a strategic location on Long Island only 50 miles east of New York City and one hour away from JFK Airport, Stony Brook University is one of America's most dynamic public universities, a center of academic excellence and an internationally recognized research institution that is changing the world.

The College

The [College of Arts and Sciences](#) is the intellectual heart of the University spanning the natural sciences, humanities, social sciences, and fine arts. The College has developed a [shared vision](#) with plans for education, research and mentorship based on constellations of its core strengths. The vision identifies some of the grand challenges of the next decade and boldly charts the way forward to a convergent, innovative, and sustainable future in three key areas: [Global Processes, Connections and Flows](#); the [Digital Revolution and Beyond](#); and [Scholarly Creativity and Explorations](#).



The College is comprised of 26 departments, 27 doctoral programs, 30 majors, and more than 40 minors. There are 450 tenured/tenure track faculty, 130 off-track faculty, and 110 staff. There are approximately 11,500 undergraduates and 1,300 doctoral students in the College.

The Department

The [Department of Economics](#) is a highly research-oriented department that emphasizes excellence in the core areas of economics: Game Theory and Microeconomic Theory, Macroeconomics, and Applied Econometrics. Since 1969, the Department has offered an excellent PhD program attracting students from around the globe, with placements in top academic and government institutions as well as the private sector. The Department also offers a recently established MA program that prepares students for successful careers in industry and government. In addition, the BA program in economics is one of the largest undergraduate majors at the University.

The Department enjoys a worldwide reputation for excellence in strategic thinking thanks to the Stony Brook [Center for Game Theory](#), founded in 1989. With continuous support from the NSF over the last several decades, the Center has organized the most important annual conference on Game Theory in the profession. It has attracted many Nobel Laureates in economics such as Robert Aumann, John Nash, Eric Maskin, Alvin Roth, and Lloyd S. Shapley. The Department also has a prominent group of researchers in the other core areas, studying some of the most pressing economic issues. These include the effects of aging on the social insurance system, the relationship between the financial crisis and the housing sector, and the consequences of urbanization on developing countries. The research on some of these issues has appeared in journals like *Nature* and *Science*, as well as popular media like the *New York Times* and *U.S. News & World Report*.



The Position

Reporting directly to the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, the Chair is responsible for the overall success and well-being of the Department through their abilities to articulate and promote the vision for and goals of the Department. The Chair will advocate for the faculty while also representing the administration. The Chair must be a distinguished scholar who has excellent organizational and management skills. The Search Committee is seeking an engaging leader who is a forward-looking

consensus-builder with unquestioned integrity, and exemplary interpersonal and communication skills. The Chair will be resilient, capable of making difficult decisions, and able to receive counsel from others.

Responsibilities and Duties

The Chair is expected to be a role model and provide leadership in all matters of Department policy, structure, and function including strategic planning, appointments, promotions, instruction, mentorship, research, and administration and will conduct research, publish in peer-reviewed journals, teach relevant courses, advise students, and participate in University and national service. The Chair is expected to cultivate

a supportive, collegial, and safe environment for faculty, staff, and students to achieve the highest possible level of excellence in research, teaching, and learning.



The Chair will work with and inspire the Economics faculty, staff, and students to fulfill the following opportunities:

- **Provide leadership for decisions:** The Chair will be asked to provide leadership for and build consensus around critical academic issues, including faculty hiring within the department, the nature and extent of interdisciplinary programs, the configuration of curricular offerings, and enrollment across academic areas.
- **Foster diversity, equity, and inclusion:** Diversity is key to academic innovation and institutional strength. The Chair will need to foster and sustain efforts to enhance diversity, equity, and inclusion amongst faculty, staff, and students.
- **Provide leadership for undergraduate education:** Economics is one of the most heavily enrolled majors at Stony Brook University. The Chair needs to sustain and augment existing efforts to provide students with an academic experience of the highest caliber.
- **Foster excellence in graduate education:** The Chair must work with the faculty to support and nurture graduate and doctoral programs of the greatest national and international distinction with transformational research outcomes.
- **Manage resources to ensure a strong financial future:** The Chair must continue to manage resources wisely, maintaining sound budgetary controls and principled resource allocation.
- **Increase resources through fundraising:** The Chair must work with University Advancement in the ongoing efforts to cultivate philanthropic support of the Department's enterprise.
- **Build collaboration across units:** There continue to be important opportunities for collaboration across the departments and across colleges. The Chair should foster curiosity and dialogue throughout the campus community, seek out new opportunities and facilitate their exploration and establishment, effectively leveraging the excellence in the University's other academic units.

The Individual

Ideal candidates will have the following professional qualifications and personal characteristics:

- **Academic stature:** Distinguished academic accomplishments, commensurate with appointment at the rank of full professor in Economics at Stony Brook University, and appropriate to the leadership of a department with a tradition of excellence in research, teaching, and service;
- **Academic leadership:** Proven ability in fostering world-class research and educational programs, and demonstrated commitment to mentorship and collegiality;
- **Collaborative skill:** Experience in catalyzing collaborations, bringing people and entities together, creating synergies within and across collaborations;
- **Financial acumen:** Experience in financial management of budgets involving personnel, facilities, and programmatic resources; and
- **Effective communication:** Accessibility and the ability to communicate effectively with faculty, staff, students, and alumni.

The Search

Stony Brook University has retained Park Square Executive Search to assist in this recruitment. Inquiries, nominations, and applications are invited. Although the search will remain open until the position is filled, review of candidate materials will begin immediately. Candidates should provide, in confidence, a curriculum vitae, and a letter of application that highlights administrative acumen and leadership experience, and the names and contact information of five references. *References will not be contacted without prior knowledge and approval of the candidates.*

Materials should be sent electronically via e-mail to the university's consultant, Dr. Jonathan Fortescue of Park Square Executive Search, at econchair@parksquare.com. Documents that must be mailed may be sent to Jonathan Fortescue, Ph.D., Managing Partner, or Zach Barker, Associate, Park Square Executive Search, LLC, 225 Franklin Street, 17th Floor, Boston, MA 02110.

Stony Brook University/SUNY is an affirmative action, equal opportunity educator and employer. The University is committed to the creation of a diverse and inclusive campus climate. Stony Brook University encourages protected veterans, individuals with disabilities, women, and minorities to apply.



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