



<u>POSITION</u>	Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration
<u>ORGANIZATION</u>	Stony Brook University www.stonybrook.edu
<u>REPORTS TO</u>	Maurie McInnis, PhD President
<u>LOCATION</u>	Stony Brook, NY

Stony Brook University is seeking an outstanding leader with exceptional strategic, financial, operational, and interpersonal capabilities to join the University's executive team as Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration (SVP). Reporting to Stony Brook's President, the SVP is the senior executive responsible for managing the institution's financial resources and administrative operations.

The University

Stony Brook University is one of two flagships of the State University of New York (SUNY) system. It is a leading public university, an internationally recognized research and medical institution, and a member of the prestigious Association of American Universities (AAU). It is known as one of the nation's premier centers for academic excellence and is a leader in generating social mobility. Stony Brook is located less than 60 miles east of Manhattan on Long Island's beautiful North Shore.

Situated on 1,454 wooded acres, the campus encompasses 12 schools and colleges; a Research and Development Park; a host of centers and institutes that range in focus from education, arts, and culture to STEM, business, and medicine; and world-class athletics facilities, including a 12,300-seat stadium and a 4,000-seat arena. The University also includes Stony Brook Medicine, Long Island's premier academic medical center, encompassing five health sciences schools, four hospitals, 200 community-based healthcare settings, and a growing number of clinical affiliations. Stony Brook University has an additional teaching and research campus in Southampton, New York, which is home to graduate arts programs, health sciences professional programs, and the Marine Sciences Center. Since 1998, Stony Brook, in partnership with Battelle, has managed the [Brookhaven National Laboratory](#), one of only 17 Department of Energy National Labs, with many faculty holding joint appointments.

The University enrolled 26,782 students in fall 2020 (18,010 undergraduate students and 8,772 graduate students) and offers more than 200 majors, minors, and combined degree programs. Students come to

Stony Brook from nearly all 50 U.S. States and over 100 countries. About one-third of Stony Brook's undergraduates are first-generation students. Stony Brook is a diverse community, and the 2020 entering-class profile was 52% male and 48% female. Its racially and ethnically diverse student body is 39.7% Asian, 5.3% African American, 13.2% Hispanic/Latinx, 5.5% nonresident alien, 26.6% Caucasian, 3.2% two or more races, and 6.4% not indicated/unknown. The University enjoys a strong international presence, maintaining affiliation agreements with about 100 universities in Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America, and Oceania. International students constitute 17% of Stony Brook's total enrollment.

Stony Brook celebrates its leading role in providing opportunities for social mobility and economic growth for its students. These outcomes are singled out in a recent study by the Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research, which concluded that Stony Brook offers a proven path toward upward advancement for students from low-income households, far ahead of many of its better-funded peers, both public and private. The University outperforms the national graduation rates of four-year institutions regardless of race or ethnicity. Stony Brook graduates have less debt, and 95 percent of recent graduates are either employed or continuing their education. In 2020, *The Times Higher Education* ranked Stony Brook University number one among U.S. Research Universities for reducing inequalities in higher education, and #27 internationally. *U.S. News and World Report* ranked Stony Brook as a top 40 public institution.

As Long Island's largest single-site employer, the University has over 15,000 full and part-time employees, including more than 2,700 faculty. Stony Brook's 2021-22 operating budget was over \$3 billion, with monies generated from a variety of sources including academic and research funds, hospital revenue, tuition, state support, and philanthropy. Stony Brook maintains an endowment of \$266 million that propels its strategic efforts and future goals. More detailed information about the University's budget and fiscal plans are available in its [Achieving Financial Sustainability Plan](#).

To learn more about the community and the benefits of working at Stony Brook University, explore [here](#).

Position Summary

The Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration (SVP) reports directly to Stony Brook's President and serves as the University's chief financial and chief operating officer, providing strategic counsel to the President, the Executive Vice President & Provost, and the Executive Vice President for Health Sciences and setting direction for the University's overall deployment of resources to advance its mission.

The SVP is responsible for formulating medium- and long-term financial strategy and for operationalizing that strategy in efficient, equitable, and effective services and systems that support the administration, finance, and budget activities of the University. The SVP provides leadership in deploying, managing, and stewarding the University's resources to meet institutional priorities and academic goals while honoring the University's established decentralized administrative model and its history of shared governance.

The SVP is the senior executive responsible for centrally managed administrative, business, and operational services involved in directly and indirectly enabling the operations of the University. The scope of the role encompasses strategy and oversight for the University and Health campuses, including the academic campus, Research & Development campus, Stony Brook Southampton, and other off-site locations.

The SVP oversees a broad portfolio that includes Budget, Financial Planning, Procurement (Accounts Payable, Central Services & Property Control), Accounting Operations, Bursar, Student Accounts, Human Resource Services (includes Payroll, Labor Relations, Human Resources), Enterprise Risk Management (including Risk Management, Emergency Management, Police, Environmental Health and Safety), Parking and Transportation, and Facilities and other services.

[Stony Brook Medicine](#), comprising the University's five health-profession schools, the faculty-practice organization, and the clinical enterprise, is an administrative unit of the University under the leadership of the Executive Vice President for Health Sciences. Stony Brook Medicine manages its own financial activities, collaborating with the SVP and their team in budgeting and periodic reporting. The SVP is responsible for aggregating all financial results and for reporting them, with the President, to the SUNY System Office. In order to achieve optimal coordination across Stony Brook, the Associate Vice President for Health Sciences/Vice Dean for Administration & Finance at the School of Medicine has a dotted-line reporting relationship to the SVP. At the same time, in order to enhance coordination between academic-budget management and the overall financial strategy of the University, the Senior Assistant Provost for Finance, Budget & Operations position has a dotted-line reporting relationship to the SVP alongside its primary reporting line to the Provost.

The SVP directly supervises the Vice Presidents for Finance, Facilities & Services, Enterprise Risk Management, and Human Resource Services. Depending on the successful candidate and internal considerations, the Vice President and Enterprise CIO position may become a direct report to the SVP as well.

Key areas of responsibility include:

- Leading the University's integrated financial planning and resource management to advance its mission
- Designing and directing a range of long-term policy and strategic initiatives in collaboration with University leaders including the President, the Provost, the EVP for Health Sciences, and other Senior Vice Presidents, Vice Presidents, and Deans
- Advising campus leadership on a range of policy, strategy and budgetary matters
- Working with senior leaders at the SUNY System Office, the SUNY Research Foundation, and New York State government officials on financial and administrative priorities
- Interacting with faculty and staff, including through the University Senate, to seek advice and communicate clearly about processes and decisions impacting the University's finances and operations
- Providing analytical support and strategic guidance related to resource implications in enrollment planning (serves on the Executive Vice President and Provost's enrollment planning committee), campus housing planning (member of the Housing Planning Advisory Committee), and other significant strategic initiatives
- Providing advice and counsel as needed to the [Stony Brook Council](#), a University governance body
- Overseeing the University's capital budget and developing short-term and long-term priorities
- Continuing to build a strong, deep, and service-oriented organization in the areas of finance and administration that aligns with Stony Brook's missions, including a deep commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Key Challenges and Opportunities

The Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration will be responsible for a broad portfolio that requires strategic leadership across a variety of constituencies, projects, and priorities and funding streams. There is opportunity for relationship building and advocacy at the state level and throughout the SUNY system, and the need to be able to have a big-picture understanding of opportunities and implications related to funding, systems, and technology on both the academic and health ventures as the University builds its future.

Joining the President's leadership team and advancing a broad set of responsibilities, the Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration will lead and direct several highly visible strategic initiatives that will ensure Stony Brook's ongoing excellence:

- Complete the development of an all-funds, multi-year approach budgeting process and associated systems that will enable both longer-term financial planning and more effective operational management and reporting at all levels of the University including its schools, colleges, centers and institutes, departments, and other administrative units
- Identify, evaluate the potential value of, and advocate for new investments in Stony Brook infrastructure, systems, and services that will help to advance the University's mission and enhance its distinction
- Alongside ongoing efforts to identify cost efficiencies, lead the identification and assessment of new revenue opportunities and areas for strategic long-term investment
- Continue to develop more transparent communication about activities and outcomes related to budgeting and to overall fiscal management across the University
- Foster a culture of excellent customer service across the University's administrative functions that prioritizes professionalism, the use of systems and metrics, and the goal of effective and sufficient central-university administration in support of academic and research distinction
- Improve general financial acumen across administrative units of the University, instilling a culture of administrative excellence based on contemporary best practices and leveraging efficient tools and systems
- Position the Finance and Administration functions to serve Stony Brook into the future
- Work closely with peers within Stony Brook and across the other major SUNY research-intensive campuses on maintaining effective relationships with the SUNY Research Foundation
- Lead a range of transformative strategic and long-term initiatives to ensure high performance administrative functions, policies, and operations
- Cultivate deeper working relationships with senior leaders at the SUNY System Office, the SUNY Research Foundation, and New York State government officials on administrative priorities
- Drive the development of a facilities master plan consistent with the developing campus strategic plan and address capital and infrastructure needs
- Pursue strategic and creative administrative models to advance the University's objectives and standards of excellence, including the effort to unify relevant administration and operations across the East and West campuses
- Play an essential role in the continuous improvement of the University towards greater efficiency and effectiveness, including the upgrade of the campus enterprise resource planning (ERP) system.

Competencies and Qualifications

The ideal candidate will be an accomplished professional with exceptional communication skills and notable executive experience leading strategic operations at complex and matrixed organizations. The successful candidate will be a highly collaborative, innovative, inclusive, and solutions-oriented leader who can partner effectively with the President, senior leadership team, and others on campus. They must have a track record of setting strategy and driving results that effectively balances a mandate for change with an understanding of how much change an organization is capable of handling, to create realistic goals and implementation plans that are achievable and successful.

Qualified candidates will possess experience in, and appreciation for, a university's academic environment; the governance structure, roles, and relationships of faculty, staff, and students; and the diverse needs for operational support. Additionally, qualified candidates must work with the highest levels of integrity, honesty, and openness; they must demonstrate flexibility, resilience, and patience; and must be able to create strong and enduring collaborative relationships across the institution.

The SVP should possess senior-level operational and administrative experience in a comparably complex setting, and significant progressively responsible leadership and administrative experience in financial planning and management. Experience in at least one other functional area that falls within the position's scope of responsibility, such as human resources, labor relations, facilities, and enterprise risk management would be beneficial.

The successful candidate will have a willingness to delegate significant responsibility to staff and instill a culture of leadership and service in departmental areas, and a demonstrated commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion throughout their career.

Required Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree or higher in accounting, business, finance, or related field
- A minimum of fifteen (15) years of progressively responsible experience in budget development, fiscal management, procurement, and strategic planning to include ten (10) years of leadership experience
- Demonstrated leadership experience in budget modeling.

Preferred Qualifications:

- Senior-level experience in an institution that includes or is closely affiliated with an academic medical center; knowledge of the budgetary and financial drivers of academic medicine
- Master's degree in accounting, business, finance, or similar field
- Experience leading administrative functions and services lines that include unionized employees
- Experience in public, non-profit, or governmental environment
- Experience in higher education
- Experience in and commitment to continuous process improvement
- Demonstrated experience in the application of technologies/online systems.

To Apply



Stony Brook University has retained [Opus Partners](#) to support this recruitment. Craig Smith, Partner, and Sarah Gaines, Associate Partner, are leading the search along with Thomas Lapierre, Senior Associate.

Confidential inquiries, applications, and nominations can be sent to thomas.lapierre@opuspartners.net.

To apply, candidates must provide a resume and a letter of interest. Stony Brook University values diversity, equity, and inclusion and will seek a leader who is committed to promoting these values. (You can read more about Stony Brook's efforts [here](#).) We encourage candidates to include in their cover letters how they have promoted these values in their career and/or how they would plan to do so in this role.

Professional references are not necessary at this time.

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Stony Brook University is committed to excellence in diversity and the creation of an inclusive learning and working environment. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, pregnancy, familial status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status and all other protected classes under federal or state laws.