

MEMORANDUM

TO: University Senate

FROM: Samuel L. Stanley Jr., M.D.
President

DATE: December 1, 2014

SUBJECT: President's Report

I. BROOKHAVEN SCIENCE ASSOCIATES AWARDED BROOKHAVEN LABORATORY MANAGEMENT CONTRACT

Brookhaven Science Associates, LLC (BSA) has been selected by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) to continue managing and operating Brookhaven National Laboratory under a new five-year base contract. The new contract begins on January 5, 2015, and has a base term of five years, with up to 15 additional years that can be earned through award-term incentives. Established as a partnership between Battelle and Stony Brook University, BSA has managed Brookhaven Laboratory since 1998. This is an extraordinary and exciting opportunity, and I am thrilled that DOE has the confidence in our leadership and vision for the future of the Laboratory. Stony Brook University is a major user of Laboratory facilities. Those facilities and scientific staff are essential to the vitality of the University's intellectual life and to the impact of many of its research programs.

II. STONY BROOK SCORES IMPRESSIVELY IN NEW U.S. NEWS GLOBAL RANKINGS

Stony Brook University is the 131st best university in the world, according to the first ever Best Global University rankings published by *U.S. News & World Report*. The new rankings include 500 universities in 49 countries. Institutions are ranked based on their academic research performance and their global and regional reputations.

III. FACULTY & STUDENT ACCOLADES**AAAS Elects Two New Fellows from Stony Brook University**

Stony Brook University professors **Dr. Erwin London** and **Dr. Clinton Rubin** have been elected Fellows of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) for their efforts advancing science or its applications. Dr. London, a professor in the Department of Chemistry and the Department of Biochemistry and Cell Biology, was elected as a Fellow in the Section of Biological Sciences for distinguished contributions to the field of biomembrane structure and function, particularly to the understanding of membrane lipid organization and membrane protein folding. Dr. Rubin, SUNY Distinguished Professor, Chair of the Department of Biomedical Engineering, and Director of the Center for Biotechnology, was elected as a Fellow in the Section

of Engineering for distinguished academic contributions in biomedical engineering and for fostering and promoting the role of technology to the field of medicine. Professors London and Rubin are among the 401 AAAS members elevated to the rank of Fellow, and will be honored at the Fellows Forum held during the AAAS Annual Meeting in February 2015.

Kenneth Dill Elected to American Academy of Arts and Sciences

Stony Brook University Distinguished Professor **Dr. Kenneth A. Dill** was recently inducted into the American Academy of Arts and Sciences at a ceremony in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Dr. Dill is a SUNY Distinguished Professor of Physics, Chemistry and Biophysics, is the Louis and Beatrice Laufer Professor of Physical and Quantitative Biology, and is also Director of the Laufer Center for Physical and Quantitative Biology at Stony Brook University. Founded in 1780, the American Academy is one of the nation's oldest and most prestigious learned societies, and is an independent research center that draws from its members' expertise to conduct studies in science and technology policy, global security, the humanities and culture, social policy, and education.

Lattimer Receives Prestigious 2015 Bethe Prize

SUNY Distinguished Professor **Dr. James Lattimer** has been selected to receive the prestigious Hans A. Bethe prize, which is sponsored by the American Physical Society (APS). Professor Lattimer is a member of the Astronomy Group in the Department of Physics and Astronomy. According to the APS, Lattimer was selected, "For outstanding theoretical work connecting observations of supernovae and neutron stars with neutrino emission and the equation of state of matter beyond nuclear density." The prestigious award is given annually by the APS to "recognize outstanding work in theory, experiment or observation in the areas of astrophysics, nuclear physics, nuclear astrophysics, or closely related fields."

Essig Receives 2015 Primakoff Award for Early-Career Particle Physics

Dr. Rouven Essig, an assistant professor at the C.N. Yang Institute for Theoretical Physics and the Department of Physics and Astronomy at Stony Brook University, has been selected to receive the 2015 Henry Primakoff Award for Early-Career Particle Physics which is sponsored by the American Physical Society (APS). According to the APS, Essig was selected, "For seminal contributions to theoretical models of dark matter with new gauge interactions, and for leadership of the APEX experiment at the Jefferson Laboratory." The Primakoff Award was established to recognize outstanding contributions made by physicists who are just beginning their careers, and to help promote the careers of exceptionally promising young physicists.

2015 AMS Steele Prize for Exposition Awarded to Robert Lazarsfeld

Dr. Robert Lazarsfeld, professor of Mathematics specializing in Algebraic Geometry at Stony Brook University, will be awarded the 2015 American Mathematical Society (AMS) Leroy P. Steele Prize for Mathematical Exposition at the Joint Mathematics Meetings this January. The annually awarded Steele Prize is one of the highest distinctions in mathematics. Dr. Lazarsfeld is being honored for his two-volume work *Positivity in Algebraic Geometry I and II* (Springer, 2004). The prize citation notes that these books were "instant classics" that have profoundly influenced and shaped research in algebraic geometry over the past decade.

SUNY ACT Excellence and Student Initiative Scholarship Awarded to Shah

Junior **Ruchi Shah** is one of only five SUNY students to receive the Association of Council Members and College Trustees (ACT) of the State University of New York Excellence and Student Initiative Scholarship. Ms. Shah is a highly motivated student that qualified for this award on several counts. Through much research and experimentation, she developed a mosquito repellent — the first of its kind — that works by neutralizing components in human perspiration that are attractive to mosquitoes and by masking the scent of perspiration. She has been conducting research in the laboratory of **Kenneth Shroyer, MD, PhD**, participated in a co-funded National Science Foundation Research Experiences for Undergraduates fellowship, and worked with a team of students to begin Long Island's first Camp Kesem chapter (which provides a free weeklong camp for children impacted by a parent's cancer). Ms. Shah is a biology major and journalism minor, maintains a 4.0 GPA, and is in the highly selective Scholars for Medicine Program.

IV. CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: UNDERGRADUATE RECOGNITION AWARDS

Nominations are being sought for Stony Brook University's Undergraduate Recognition Awards. Awards for Academic Excellence are given for academic accomplishments that go beyond the classroom experience. Awards for Outstanding Achievement are presented for excellence in activities that relate to the co-curricular life of the University and surrounding community. The University's 33rd Undergraduate Excellence and Outstanding Achievement Annual Ceremony will be held on April 13, 2015. This ceremony provides an opportunity to publicly honor the outstanding accomplishments of our undergraduate students and the faculty and staff who mentor them. The deadline for submissions is **February 6, 2015**. For guidelines and eligibility criteria, please visit: www.stonybrook.edu/due.

V. STONY BROOK SET TO CELEBRATE WINTER COMMENCEMENT

Stony Brook will celebrate Winter Commencement on **Thursday, December 18 in the Island Federal Credit Union Arena**. The ceremony will begin at 11:00 a.m. and confer bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees for summer 2014 and fall 2014 graduates.

VI. CAMPUS EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Stony Brook University has developed a comprehensive emergency management program, built capabilities to prepare for, respond to and recover from hazards, and has worked to create a campus culture of preparedness. There are many efforts and initiatives in place, such as the SB Alert emergency notification system and SB Guardian service. For further information, please visit the Office of Emergency Management's website at: www.stonybrook.edu/emergency/.

VII. FACILITIES UPDATES

As the semester draws to a close, I thought you might be interested in the following facilities projects:

- A complete renovation of the Pritchard pool will begin this month.

- Design for replacement of the air handling units in Psychology A, Educational Communications Center building, and the existing Computer Science building has begun.
- Engineering assessments of the mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems for both Staller/Fine Arts and Chemistry buildings will begin this year. These studies will allow the campus to plan for a phased replacement of major components over the next 5 years.
- A campus-wide energy audit will be initiated next year in collaboration with the New York Power Authority. The audit will analyze our buildings and grounds to develop new energy saving projects.
- Lighting fixtures in surface parking lots are being replaced over the next few months. In addition to energy savings, the new light fixtures will increase light levels, reduce maintenance costs and improve pedestrian safety.
- A building lighting retrofit and occupancy sensor installation project has begun. This project will improve energy efficiency and reduce maintenance costs by replacing lamps and ballasts in existing light fixtures with more efficient units. Occupancy sensors will further increase energy savings and life of lamps by automatically turning off lights when a room is not occupied.

VIII. UPCOMING EVENTS

Annual Windmill Lighting and Festivities at Stony Brook Southampton

The annual holiday Windmill Lighting will take place on **Friday, December 5, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.** on the Southampton Campus. Long Island's favorite college mascot, Wolfie, will be on hand for the celebration, which will include a photo booth, holiday treats, crafts for children, and steaming cups of hot cocoa. The event will also showcase Stony Brook Southampton's new food program, run by the Amagansett Food Institute. This program is free and open to the public.

First-Ever Discovery Fund Prize to be Awarded at Event in Manhattan

The Stony Brook Foundation Board and special guest **Alan Alda**, will join me at the first Discovery Fund Challenge competition on **December 11, 2014**. The event will take place at the Simons Foundation located in New York City. Finalists, **Dr. Gábor Balázs**, **Dr. Eden Figueroa**, **Dr. Laurie T. Krug**, and **Dr. Emre Salman** – all early-career Stony Brook faculty in the STEM disciplines – will compete for a \$200,000 prize. The finalists will present their work to a panel of esteemed judges, which includes: **Dr. Jim Simons**, Simons Foundation; **Dr. Robert Shelton**, Research Corporation for Science Advancement; **Dr. Esther Takeuchi**, Distinguished Professor of Chemistry at Stony Brook; and **Dr. Peter Agre**, winner of the 2003 Nobel Prize in Chemistry and professor at John Hopkins.

IX. ATHLETICS UPDATE

Fall Sports

- **Football**: Ninth year Head Coach Chuck Priore and his team finished the regular season in a tie for fifth place in the CAA with a 6-6 record overall. The football team closed out the season with one of the nation's top defenses. Sophomore running back **Stacey Bedell** became the sixth player under Priore to rush for 1,000 yards in a season. Senior **Christian Ricard** was recently named to the Buchanan Award watch list. Ricard and teammate **Victor Ochi** were both nominated for the 2014 FCS National Defensive Performer of the Year Award.
- **Volleyball**: Under second year Head Coach Coley Pawlikowski, the team had their winningest season since 2007. The Seawolves fell short to New Hampshire in the first round of the America East Championship Tournament. Senior **Evann Slaughter** earned a place on the All-Championship team and garnered a first-team all-conference selection for the second time in her career. Senior **Taylor Gillie** and junior **Melissa Rigo** both earned all-academic honors.
- **Men's Soccer**: Head Coach Ryan Anatol's team finished their season in a hard fought battle in the America East Conference playoffs against Binghamton, which ended after six rounds of penalty kicks. **Martin Giordano** and **Alejandro Fritz** earned spots on both the All-Conference second team and the America-East All-Academic team.
- **Women's Soccer**: Head Coach Sue Ryan and the Stony Brook Women's Soccer team finished their season with an America East first team nod from junior **Tessa Devereaux**. Senior **Shannon Grogan** garnered America East All-Academic honors.

Winter Sports

- **Men's Basketball**: Head Coach Steve Pikiell and the Stony Brook Men's Basketball team opened the season in front of a sold out crowd in the new Island Federal Credit Union Arena. After winning their first two home games this year, the Seawolves are 2-2 overall so far. After averaging 17.0 points, 12.7 rebounds and 2.7 blocks in three games last week, junior **Jameel Warney** was named America East Player of the Week. This season, the Seawolves have been selected for a total of nine televised games through the America East package with the ESPN family network.
- **Women's Basketball**: After a record breaking 2013-2014 season, the Seawolves opened up their season in the new Island Federal Credit Union under the leadership of Head Coach Caroline McCombs. They battled St. Peter's for their first victory. With nine returning letter winners and four starters, the Seawolves look to continue making history. The team will host three contests on ESPN3 this season and will play a challenging non-conference schedule including games at Duke, Iona and Iowa State.