

MEMORANDUM

TO: University Senate

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

DATE: December 4, 2017

SUBJECT: President's Report

I. ENERGY SCIENTIST AND PEDIATRIC PHYSICIAN RESEARCHERS NAMED ENDOWED CHAIRS

At an investiture ceremony on November 14, three new endowed chairs were formally appointed; two leading pediatric clinical research physicians at Stony Brook Children's Hospital and a renowned materials scientist and chemical engineer at the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences. **Drs. Esther Takeuchi, Margaret M. McGovern, and Christopher S. Muratore** were honored at the ceremony. An overview of their backgrounds and accomplishments are highlighted below:

- One of Stony Brook's best and brightest is **William and Jane Knapp Chair in Energy and the Environment Esther Takeuchi**, who holds a joint appointment with Brookhaven National Lab and Stony Brook University, and owns the most patents (150 to date) of any woman in the U.S. Takeuchi is currently directing a U.S. Department of Energy \$10 million Energy Frontier Research award, leading the research on alternative, environmentally friendly battery systems with powerful energy and lifespan capabilities. Takeuchi is recognized for developing the battery technology that implanted cardiac defibrillators employ today. During his presidency, former President Obama bestowed her with highest honor possible for technological achievement in the United States – the National Medal of Technology and Innovation.
- **Margaret M. McGovern, the Knapp Chair in Pediatrics**, is a professor and physician-in-chief at Stony Brook Children's Hospital. McGovern is a board-certified pediatrician and a nationally renowned clinical geneticist. She has a long-standing research interest in and is an international authority on the inborn errors of metabolism and Niemann-Pick disease (NPD). McGovern has been instrumental in the launch of Stony Brook Children's Hospital, Long Island's first dedicated pediatric emergency department, a robust pediatric program – 30 specialties with some 200 practicing physicians – and the construction of the new Children's Hospital building. McGovern has set a strategic vision and three critical missions for pediatric medicine at Stony Brook – providing expert clinical care to pediatric patients, educating medical students and residents, and providing faculty with an environment that encourages and supports innovative research.

- **Christopher S. Muratore**, is Stony Brook Children’s Hospital’s new chief of pediatric surgery and is the **Knapp Chair in Pediatric Surgery**. Muratore comes to Stony Brook from Hasbro Children’s Hospital, a division of Rhode Island Hospital and Women and Infants Hospital of Rhode Island. A dedicated educator, he also served as director for the pediatric surgery fellowship-training program at the Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University. His areas of expertise include minimally invasive surgery, neonatal intensive care and pediatric thoracic surgery. Muratore brings years of training in pediatric surgical research laboratories investigating the fetal treatment of congenital diaphragmatic hernia (CDH). He is a key investigator on the FDA-sponsored investigational device exemption for in utero tracheal occlusion for severe CDH, and he collaborated locally and nationally to advance fetal treatment, having served as chair of the fetal diagnosis and treatment committee of the American Pediatric Surgical Association.

The three new endowed faculty positions were funded by philanthropic gifts from the Knapp family through the **Knapp-Swezey Foundation, Island Outreach Foundation, and Jane and William Knapp**, respectively.

II. CAMPAIGN FOR STONY BROOK UPDATE

Since the University Senate last met, the Campaign for Stony Brook has secured \$1.9 million in new gifts and pledges. More than 44,716 donors have committed \$565.1 million to-date toward our goal of raising \$600 million by June 30, 2018. The following commitments are recent examples of the strong support the Campaign continues to attract:

- \$150,000 for the Center for the Study of Men and Masculinities
- \$125,000 for Athletics, including the football, men’s and women’s basketball, and women’s lacrosse programs
- \$100,000 to benefit breast cancer research and \$100,000 for the Sunrise Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Research Fund
- \$100,000 for graduate student support in the School of Dental Medicine

For additional updates on the campaign, please visit stonybrook.edu/campaign.

III. ALUMNI ASSOCIATION CAMPAIGN GIVING SURPASSES \$1 MILLION

The Stony Brook Alumni Association (SBAA) has reached an exciting milestone this year – total SBAA giving towards the Campaign for Stony Brook has surpassed \$1 million. Of this \$1 million, over 50 percent of funds have supported student scholarships, while the rest benefited interdepartmental collaborations and student programs. The Stony Brook Alumni Association is a 501(c)3 organization whose mission is to reach, serve and engage all Stony Brook alumni, students and other constituencies to foster a lifelong intellectual and emotional connection between the University and its graduates.

IV. ALUMNI, STUDENT, & STAFF ACCOLADES

I am pleased and proud to report on the following recent outstanding accomplishments of our alumni, staff, and students:

- The College of Engineering and Applied Sciences recently announced that **John L. Hennessy**, Stanford University President Emeritus and Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, is its 2018 Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame Honoree. Hennessy received his PhD '77 and MS '75 in Computer Science from Stony Brook University's College of Engineering and Applied Sciences. Hennessy served in major academic leadership roles at Stanford for more than two decades — from Chair of the Department of Computer Science and Dean of the School of Engineering, to Provost and President. Today, Hennessy is Co-Founder and Director of the Knight-Hennessy Scholars program, designed to build a multidisciplinary community of Stanford graduate students dedicated to finding creative solutions to the world's greatest challenges. He will be officially inducted into the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame in a special ceremony on April 5, 2018 at Stony Brook's 16th Annual Engineering Ball.
- Senior **Lydia Senatus** has been awarded a 2018 Charles B. Rangel International Affairs Fellowship. The fellowship supports extraordinary individuals seeking to pursue a career in the U.S. Foreign Service. Funded by the U.S. Department of State and managed by the Ralph J. Bunche International Affairs Center at Howard University, the fellowship provides: 1) approximately \$95,000 in benefits over a two year period to pursue a master's degree in international affairs; 2) two internship opportunities; & 3) upon completion of her masters program, Lydia will become a U.S. Diplomat.
- **Josefina Gallardo Salguero**, a lead preschool teacher at Stony Brook Child Care Services, has been awarded a mini grant from the New York State Association for the Education of Young Children (AEYC). Salguero received the funding for the project "All About Me, All About You," which will help build tolerance and acceptance in the preschool classroom environment.

V. STONY BROOK SET TO CELEBRATE WINTER COMMENCEMENT

Stony Brook will celebrate Winter Commencement on **Thursday, December 21 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 2017 and fall 2017 graduates.

VI. RECENT EVENTS

Celebrating Native American Heritage Month

November is Native American Heritage Month. Stony Brook celebrated the month by holding a unique program series, which featured a wide range of Native American cultural, educational and social demonstrations – including performing artists, an exhibit, historians, community activists, governmental officials, and graduate student researchers. One particularly outstanding event was

an educational seminar, food sampling and book signing with Chef **Lois Ellen Frank** (Kiowa/Sephardic nations). The event was attended by over 220 students, faculty, staff, and community members; distinguished guests included:

- **Lubin Hunter**, Tribal Representative Shinnecock Nation
- **Martin Jones**, Junior Sachem Matinecock Nation
- **Michael Smith**, Shinnecock Nation and Stony Brook Council Member
- **Osceola Townsend**, Sachem/Chief Matinecock Nation
- **Harry Wallace**, Chief Unkechaug Nation

Town Hall Meetings on Stony Brook University's Equity, Inclusion and Diversity Initiative

Diversity Town Halls were held on West Campus, East Campus, and the Southampton Campus last month to discuss progress and hear feedback regarding the University's Diversity Plan. Stony Brook University leadership, as well as representatives from key areas where tasks/projects have been implemented, provided updates, highlights, and answered questions from students, faculty and staff.

Grand Opening of the China Center

On November 10, Stony Brook University celebrated the grand opening of the China Center with a festive ribbon cutting ceremony featuring student performers and special guests. Located in the Charles B. Wang Center, the China Center will be a centralized hub for all of the University's China initiatives and provide a second home to international students in need of assistance. The China Center will help to: ensure that our Chinese international students become acclimated to and thrive at Stony Brook; recruit more and higher-achieving graduate and undergraduate international students from China; develop Chinese alumni chapters in Beijing, Shanghai, and Guangzhou; and deepen strategic relationships with our partner universities in the areas of research, student exchange, and dual degree programs.

Annual Awards and Recognition Dinner

More than 130 faculty and staff were honored at the Annual Awards and Recognition Dinner on November 8. The night celebrated faculty achievements, winners of the Chancellor's Awards for Excellence, and recipients of the University's Presidential Mini-Grants.

Veterans Day Ceremony

This year's Veterans Day Ceremony took place on Wednesday, November 8 in the Student Activities Center (SAC), Sidney Gelber Auditorium. The ceremony honored all veterans, students, alumni, faculty, staff, and families who have served or are currently serving in the United States Armed Forces – especially those students who have postponed their education to serve in moments of need. Approximately 165 members of the campus community attended, and roughly 80 were veterans of foreign wars ranging from Afghanistan, Iraq, and World War II.

VII. ATHLETICS UPDATE

Team Updates¹

- **Football:** With a record of 10-2 and a No. 10 ranking, the team has advanced to the second round of the NCAA Division I Playoffs. The Seawolves will take on No. 1 James Madison on December 2. The Seawolves defeated Lehigh 59-29 at LaValle Stadium on November 25 in the first round. The team's 10 wins matches a school record set in 2012.
- **Women's Soccer:** The Seawolves won the America East Championship for the first time since 2012 by defeating Vermont 2-1. Led by second-year head coach **Brendan Faherty**, the team advanced to the first round of the NCAA Tournament, where its season ended with a loss to Penn State.
- **Volleyball:** Under first-year head coach **Kristin Belzung**, the team won its first-ever America East title after sweeping Albany and Binghamton in the conference tournament. The team is headed to Nebraska for the opening round of the NCAA Tournament on Friday, December 1.
- **Men's Basketball:** The team went into the weekend with a 2-5 record but has faced one of the most difficult schedules in the country. So far, the team has competed against some tough teams, including Michigan State, Maryland, and UConn.
- **Women's Basketball:** The Seawolves are off to a terrific start and is currently 5-0 for the first time since moving to Division I. The team enters weekend play as the second-ranked defense in the nation.

¹ As of November 29