



Stony Brook University

OFFICE OF THE PROVOST AND
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

TO: University Senate
FROM: Dennis N. Assanis, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs
DATE: October 6, 2014

REPORT TO THE UNIVERSITY SENATE

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE 2014-2015 CHANCELLOR'S AWARDS

We are pleased to announce the 2014-2015 call for nominations for the Chancellor's Awards for: Excellence in Teaching, Excellence in Faculty Service, Excellence in Librarianship, Excellence in Professional Service, and Excellence in Scholarship and Creative Activities. The Chancellor's Awards for Excellence are system-level honors conferred to acknowledge and provide system-wide recognition for consistently superior professional achievement and to encourage the ongoing pursuit of excellence. These programs underscore SUNY's commitment to sustaining intellectual vibrancy, advancing the boundaries of knowledge, providing the highest quality of instruction, and serving the public good. Through these awards, SUNY publicly proclaims its pride in the accomplishment and personal dedication of its instructional faculty, librarians, and professional and classified staff across its campuses.

The nomination form and complete guidelines for preparing the nomination files are located at: <http://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/provost/resources/nominations.html>. The nomination form must be submitted electronically no later than Friday, October 10, 2014. The completed nomination file must be received in the Provost's Office no later than Friday, November 14, 2014. For additional information, please contact Maureen Wozniak, Staff Assistant, Office of the Provost, at 631-632-7016 or maureen.wozniak@stonybrook.edu.

PRESIDENTIAL-PROVOSTIAL ONLINE DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE

The President and Provost of Stony Brook University, in support of the continuing evolution of educational excellence for our students and the world, have established the Online Learning Development Initiative, funded initially for four years at a level of \$250,000 per year. The goals of the initiative are to:

- leverage online channels and technology to enhance and support SBU's educational mission;
- improve the quality, flexibility and accessibility of SBU education to better serve the needs of residential, commuter and non-traditional students;
- emerge as a leader in pedagogical innovation to enhance teaching and learning outcomes and
- enhance SBU's brand and global reach.

The initiative seeks new and innovative proposals to develop both online and blended-learning courses and tools that offer special opportunities for learners at Stony Brook and beyond. A

successful proposal must have significant curricular impact and advance scholarly understanding of effective practices for online learning. In 2014-2015, the initiative will give preference to proposals that address time-to-graduation and graduation rates and will be in place by fall 2015. Foundational courses that lead to degree completion and efforts that increase timely success in such courses are particularly sought. A request for proposals (RFP) will be forthcoming.

FUNDING SUCCESSES OF NEWLY HIRED FACULTY

SBU is investing significant resources to recruit, support and retain a growing world-class faculty body engaged in cutting-edge research. Accordingly, the Provostial area welcomed a total of 69 new tenure-track faculty for academic year 2014/2015: 31 within the College of Arts and Sciences; 20 within the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences; 8 within the College of Business; 2 within the School of Journalism; 5 within the School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences, and 3 within Centers and Institutes. Of those newly-hired faculty members, 15 will be performing their primary research work in interdisciplinary clusters.

Among the faculty hired on west campus within the past three years, 44 have already been funded for their scholarly research, with the number constantly growing. Based on data provided by the Research Foundation as of September 1, 2014, these new faculty have attracted research awards totaling \$18.7M, of which \$12M were awarded in the last 12 months. The awards amount to an average of \$425k per new faculty member. Including funding awarded to the same faculty group with start dates in October 2014, SBU has booked an average of \$720k in grants per recently hired faculty member. This is a great head start for our new hires that bodes very well for the future of our research programs. These new faculty hires complement the outstanding faculty who already are at Stony Brook.

ANNUAL W. BURGHARDT TURNER FELLOWSHIP WELCOME DINNER

On Tuesday, September 30, 2014 we held the Annual Welcome Dinner for the Dr. W. Burghardt Turner Fellowship Program, hosted by Stony Brook University's Center for Inclusive Education (CIE). This dinner to welcome our new Turner Fellows, also acknowledged the incredible 27 year history of the Turner Fellowship Program and attested to its growing value and prestige at the University. CIE's recent receipt of a \$1.4 million grant from the National Institutes of Health for its Initiative for Maximizing Student Development program will help increase the number of underrepresented individuals completing undergraduate and doctoral degrees in the biomedical sciences, further supporting SBU's efforts in expanding and diversifying its undergraduate and graduate programs. This grant marks the fifth high visibility, and competitive, award received by the CIE, totaling \$8.5 million in funds and support for 165 students and postdoctoral scholars. This upsurge in millions of dollars in federal funding will enable Stony Brook to provide the resources necessary for hundreds of talented students to transition through the pipeline, work with our world-renowned faculty, and foster the intergenerational transmission of knowledge and skills needed for ground-breaking research and discovery. We were honored to also have Dr. Carlos Medina from the SUNY Chancellor's Office attend the dinner. Carlos was recently appointed the SUNY System's Chief Diversity Officer and is the 2014 Winner of the Diversity Visionary Award from INSIGHT Into Diversity Magazine.

THE “FUTURE OF EDUCATION ON LONG ISLAND” PANEL DISCUSSION

On Tuesday, October 14, 2014 from 6-8 p.m. in the Humanities Building, Room 201, the Phi Delta Kappa Chapter at Stony Brook University will host a panel discussion entitled “The Future of Education on Long Island.” This event will feature New York State legislators Senator John Flanagan and Assemblyman Steven Englebright, and Regent Roger Tilles. The discussion will be moderated by Ken Lindblom, teacher educator at Stony Brook University and PDK Stony Brook Chapter President. The world of education has been a torrent of change in the past two years. Race to the Top, Common Core State Standards and implementation, dramatic increases in standards for testing, new requirements for annual professional performance reviews and initial teacher certification, and massive amounts of quickly produced curriculum materials have resulted in a head-spinning array of issues for educators, parents, and students. The two percent tax cap, increasing numbers of English language learners, and new challenges in special education also add complexity. Discussing the future of education with NYS policy makers will help Long Island's educators continue to address the needs of young people and communities in these turbulent times. Please join us for what will surely be a fascinating discussion and important opportunity for stakeholders to share their experiences.

PROVOST’S DEANS AND CHAIRS ACADEMY

In order to better support the colleges and departments in accomplishing their academic missions, the Provost's Office will host a one-day retreat for West Campus Deans and Chairs on Friday, Oct. 24, 2014 in the Tabler Center for the Arts. The goals of this retreat are to provide a common understanding of policies and procedures related to core functions and to facilitate open discussion of current issues faced by deans and chairs. Tentative topics for discussion include: budgets, revenue generation, human resources management (including the tenure process), faculty mentoring, undergraduate and graduate programs, and online education.

11TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE AND EXPO ON EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES FOR A SMARTER WORLD

The Center of Excellence in Wireless and Information Technology (CEWIT) is hosting the 11th International Conference and Expo on Emerging Technologies for a Smarter World on October 29-30, 2014 at the Melville Marriott Long Island. CEWIT 2014 is New York’s premier IT conference and international forum on the applications of emerging technologies in infrastructure, healthcare and energy — the most critical components of a smarter global environment. This cross-campus, multidisciplinary event capitalizes on the functions and influence of IT in all aspects of academia, industry and society at large. The program will feature a wide range of tutorials, technical sessions, international delegations, IT-entrepreneurship and start-up workshops, and incredible networking opportunities for all attendees. CEWIT has organized this annual event since 2003, expanding its original technical focus to include entrepreneurship tools, funding, and cross-disciplinary applied research. The CEWIT Conference has gained international recognition for its leadership in research quality and diversity, integrating academic research and industry innovations within a single forum. More than 140 private and public companies are actively involved in the CEWIT Conference. They represent companies at all stages of maturity in the sectors of Management Solutions, Software Development, Social Media, Communications and Devices, Networks, Security, Healthcare, Consulting, Biomedical, Big Data and other IT applications. Since its inception, CEWIT has received more than \$150 million from federal and industry partners.

15TH ANNUAL CHEMISTRY RESEARCH DAY AT SBU

On Friday, October 31, 2014, we will celebrate our fifteenth annual Chemistry Research Day at Stony Brook University—an annual showcase and celebration which features poster presentations by graduate students, undergraduates, and postdoctoral researchers highlighting the tremendous breadth of work in our Chemistry department. With all that Stony Brook has to offer with respect to Chemistry education and research, it is wonderful that we host Chemistry Research Day to provide an annual forum to recognize the many accomplishments of our students and to recruit new students to our Chemistry program. This event is also an excellent opportunity for undergraduates on campus, other members of our Stony Brook community, and faculty from local schools, to learn first-hand about the department's research initiatives. Furthermore, our new faculty hires in Chemical Biology, Biomolecular Imaging, Molecular Dynamics, Functional Nanomaterials, and Energy Storage will help to significantly further Stony Brook's mission of being a center of excellence in chemistry as a science with tremendous translational promise for solving some of the most critical problems that we, as a society, face.

NEWLY ADDED OCTOBER 2014 PROVOST'S LECTURES

The fall 2014 Provost's Lecture Series will begin on Thursday October 9, 2014 at 4 p.m. in the Tabler Center, Black Box Theater with a presentation by Bill Drayton entitled "Education and Job Creation in a World of Accelerating Change." Drayton, who has degrees from Harvard and Oxford, is a recipient of a National Public Service Award for his extraordinary contributions to social change. According to Drayton, interest and demand for social entrepreneurship programs worldwide, and on American college campuses, are accelerating while older organizational models struggle and fail. He is a 21st century prophet and founder of ASHOKA with an Ashoka Fellows network of some 3,000 social entrepreneurs in 70 countries. In this talk, Drayton will share his insightful view of a "change-maker world" where people who can't find jobs go out and create their own meaningful work, where companies value employees whose teamwork, empathy, and leadership "from the inside" help to bring about changes to help them adapt and thrive, and where young people grow up feeling empowered and equipped to bring about new solutions to entrenched social problems. He will also address the urgency of adapting our institutions to make this world a reality as rapidly as possible. This event is co-sponsored by the College of Business, Lift Up Long Island, Inc., the Social Enterprise Alliance of Long Island, and Long Island's United Way.

On Thursday, October 16, 2014 at 10 a.m. in the Charles B. Wang Center Theater, Joan Frosch will give a talk entitled "Who is (Not) Human?" Joan Frosch is a Professor of Dance in the School of Theatre and Dance at the University of Florida, where she has taught since 1995. Dr. Frosch co-founded and directs the Center for World Arts, a living laboratory exploring contemporary global expression in performance. Recently named a University of Florida Research Foundation Professor, Dr. Frosch is a dance ethnographer, Laban Movement Analyst (CMA), filmmaker, choreographer, and author. Her research has attracted numerous honors and awards, including the Lilly Fellowship and two awards from the National Endowment for the Arts (Dance-Creativity). In this lecture, Frosch will ponder whose life is one to value, respect, if not exceptionalize, and, whose life can we stand to lose, if not take? The recognition of humanity is clearly a matter of life and death. What race, ethnicity, gender, religious affiliation, ability, sexual orientation, nationality, language, or age privileges the status of the human, "who manifests a subjectivity—that is, a consciousness like our own—that would allow us to consider each of them, taken individually, as another self?" This

lecture is co-sponsored by the Center for Dance, Movement and Somatic Learning, and is a part of the Festival of the Moving Body.

On Thursday, October 30, 2014 at 4 p.m. in the Wang Center Theater, Jack Halberstam will lecture on “A Path So Twisted: Thinking Wildly With and Through Punk Feminisms.” Jack Halberstam is a Professor of American Studies and Ethnicity, Gender Studies and Comparative Literature at the University of Southern California. Halberstam is the author of five books including: *Skin Shows: Gothic Horror and the Technology of Monsters* (Duke UP, 1995), *Female Masculinity* (Duke UP, 1998), *In A Queer Time and Place* (NYU Press, 2005), *The Queer Art of Failure* (Duke UP, 2011) and *Gaga Feminism: Sex, Gender, and the End of Normal* (Beacon Press, 2012). Halberstam is a popular speaker and gives lectures around the country and internationally every year on topics such as queer failure, sex and media, subcultures, visual culture, gender variance, popular film, and animation. This lecture is co-sponsored by the Center for the Study of Men and Masculinities.

For additional information on the Provost’s Lecture Series, please visit:
<http://www.stonybrook.edu/sb/provlec>.

STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY’S FALL COMMUNITY FESTIVAL

The University Bookstore, in collaboration with the Provost’s Liaison Office and WUSB 90.7 FM, is presenting a Fall Community Festival on Wednesday, October 8, 2014 from 12:00 - 2:30 p.m. outside of the Melville Library. WUSB will be streaming live from the festival. The event will feature performances by R&B artist Alinda Askew, DJ Rich Fantasia, Tunnel Version and many of the student dance groups on campus. Be sure to check out the health and wellness demonstrations by Campus Recreation and enjoy Green Street Cafe food samples offered by Campus Dining’s Dietitian Tina Tiernan. Green Street Cafe is the new vegetarian-only food platform at the Union Commons. Browse the selection of books on healthy eating and living. For those interested in arts, crafts and photography, there will be a photo gallery by Keith Krejci and a Craft Center pottery wheel and button-making demonstration. Studio 97 will also be offering free pink hair extensions to promote breast cancer awareness as well as free polish changes. The University Bookstore will be hosting a sidewalk sale where you can find great deals for all of your fall essentials. As an added bonus, guests will have the opportunity to spin a wheel at the event to win great prizes and SBU gear.

LEAKEY’S BATTLE TO SAVE AFRICAN ELEPHANTS FEATURED IN NEWSWEEK

Stony Brook’s Richard Leakey and his decades-long battle to preserve African wildlife are prominently featured in the September 5, 2014 issue of *Newsweek* in a story entitled “Leakey’s Last Stand: The Final Battle of Africa’s Elephant King.” The Leakey profile was the cover story of *Newsweek*’s European edition and was headlined on the cover of the U.S. edition. In this article, Reporter Graham Boynton tells the story of Leakey’s ongoing struggle against the poaching and corruption that is threatening the very survival of the world’s most majestic land mammal. Richard E. Leakey, Ph.D., is Director of The Turkana Basin Institute (TBI), a privately funded, non-profit initiative, founded by Leakey and Stony Brook University. It is a collaborative, international, multi-disciplinary enterprise that seeks to facilitate fieldwork within the Lake Turkana Basin by providing logistical support to researchers. Leakey is also a Professor in the Department of Anthropology and a world-renowned conservationist and paleoanthropologist, who has made some of the most important fossil discoveries of the last 100 years. A former Director of Kenya’s National Museums

and the Kenyan Wildlife Service, Dr. Leakey has been a leader in the fight to preserve culture and wildlife in Africa and other locations. He has authored more than 100 scientific journals and books, including *The Sixth Extinction*, *Origins*, *Origins Reconsidered*, *The Origin of Humankind*, and *One Life*. He has presented several television programs, including the five-part *Making of Mankind* and NBC's *Earthwatch*. His latest book is *Wildlife Wars: My Fight to Save Africa's Treasures*.

READING BY PULITZER-PRIZE WINNING POET AT SBU

On Wednesday, September 23, 2014, Vijay Seshadri, winner of the 2014 Pulitzer Prize for Poetry, gave a reading at SBU's Poetry Center on the second floor of the Humanities Building. He is the author of three collections of poetry: *3 Sections*, which was awarded the Pulitzer; *The Long Meadow*, which won the James Laughlin Award; and *Wild Kingdom*. The Pulitzer committee described *3 Sections* as "a compelling collection of poems that examine human consciousness, from birth to dementia, in a voice that is by turns witty and grave, compassionate and remorseless." This event was co-sponsored by The Poetry Center, the Department of Cultural Analysis and Theory, the Department of English, the Humanities Institute and the Mattoo Center for India Studies.