

REPORT TO THE UNIVERSITY SENATE

TO: University Senate

FROM: Dennis N. Assanis, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

DATE: November 2, 2015

Merger of the School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences and the Sustainability Studies Program at Stony Brook University

Following the guidelines for the modification of academic units, and with the unanimous support from the University Senate, Stony Brook University has administratively and programmatically merged the School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences (SoMAS) and the Sustainability Studies Program, effective fall 2015. The integration of SoMAS and the Sustainability Studies Program will strengthen both programs and the University in the following ways. The merger of similar undergraduate majors will reduce duplication of courses and instruction, as well as allow a more synergistic use of faculty and staff. The merger will also create a platform for stronger undergraduate and graduate programs and research in both units. It will facilitate collaborations between faculty in Sustainability Studies and faculty in SoMAS, giving SoMAS faculty greater access to social sciences and humanities expertise, and the Sustainability Studies faculty a science “edge.” The merger will also support the rapid growth of the Geospatial Center, now housed in Sustainability Studies. The merger creates a path for the University to become a world leader in the emerging areas of sustainability by focusing on coastal systems. This will, in turn, strengthen collaborations of the Sustainability Studies Program with other schools on campus.

2016-2017 SUNY Faculty Diversity Program

The Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (ODEI) is pleased to announce the Faculty Diversity Program (FDP) for the 2016-2017 academic year. The program is budgeted to provide partial salary support to SUNY state-operated campuses for a limited number of new assistant professor level appointments. The purpose of this program is to advance diversity and inclusive excellence by encouraging the recruitment, retention and promotion of outstanding scholars from different backgrounds, including individuals from groups who have historically been underrepresented in higher education. Salary support will be provided for three years and distributed annually as follows:

- 2016-2017 – 80% of negotiated salary up to \$80,000 and up to \$5,000 for research & professional development;
- 2017-2018 – 75% of negotiated salary up to \$50,000 and up to \$5,000 for research & professional development; and
- 2018-2019 – 25% of negotiated salary up to \$15,000 and up to \$5,000 for research & professional development.

Only individuals nominated by the Chief Academic Officer are eligible for consideration. Only U.S. citizens or permanent residents are eligible for an award. Disbursement of the award is contingent on the faculty member having completed all requirements for the terminal degree in their discipline prior to the commencement of the 2016-2017 academic year. A complete dossier will consist of the following documents:

- Curriculum vitae;
- Candidate's statement of interest;
- Published work or writing sample;
- Three reference letters;
- Evidence of candidate's ability to respond effectively to the learning needs of students from diverse backgrounds;
- Home department/academic unit or dean's evaluation of candidate's academic record;
- Chief Academic Officer's recommendation for appointment; and
- Statement on the candidate's contribution to enhancing campus diversity.

All applicants must be approved by the area's respective Dean before they can be forwarded to the Office of the Provost for consideration. The deadline for submission of a complete dossier in hard-copy format to Marsha Pollard, Associate Chief Academic Officer, is December 18, 2015. Nominators will be apprised as to whether their nominee will be forwarded to SUNY for further consideration by January 8, 2016. For additional information, please contact Marsha Pollard at 631-632-7009 or marsha.pollard@stonybrook.edu.

Stony Brook Researchers Receive \$1 Million DoE Grant to Advance Engine Technology

A Stony Brook University-led research team has received a \$1 million grant from the Department of Energy (DOE) to conduct research on Reactivity Controlled Compression Ignition (RCCI), an emerging combustion technology which has the potential to simultaneously reduce fuel consumption and emissions. Research will focus on utilizing onboard fuel reformation to eliminate the need for two different fuels to enable RCCI. The DOE grant to Stony Brook is one of eight awarded to research teams around the country investigating advanced vehicle technologies. According to the DOE, the funding goes toward projects that "pursue breakthrough approaches to providing Americans with greater freedom of mobility and energy security, while lowering costs and reducing environmental impacts." The DOE is providing a total of \$10 million in funding to the eight projects, each of which focuses on innovative solutions for efficient and environmentally friendly vehicle technologies to reduce petroleum use in the U.S.

Professor Lawler and Professor Sotirios Mamalis proposed the use of an onboard fuel reformer to create the necessary fuel reactivity separation to enable RCCI via a single fuel. If successful, the proposed use of an onboard fuel reformer could be a major step for future commercialization of RCCI. The research team is testing three possible parent fuels with potential for automotive applications at Stony Brook's Advanced Energy Research and Technology Center. These fuels are gasoline, diesel and natural gas. In addition to experimental testing of the fuels and fuel reformates, Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD) modeling and simulation of parent fuel-reformate RCCI will provide insight into fuel pairs that offer the most promise for efficiency. The goal will be to evaluate each fuel pair and its ability to enable single-fuel RCCI.

Co-Principal Investigators on the project are Sotirios Mamalis, PhD, Assistant Professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, and Dennis N. Assanis, PhD, Professor of Mechanical Engineering, and Provost and Senior VP of Academic Affairs, at Stony Brook University. Other participants in the research include Dr. Marco Castaldi of the City College of New York, and Dr. Dean Modroukas of Innoveering, LLC.

Artists, Authors and Editors Reception

On Wednesday, November 4, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. in the Wang Chapel, Stony Brook University will be hosting the annual Artists, Authors and Editors reception. This annual exhibition affords SBU faculty artists, authors and editors the opportunity to share the diversity in the depth and breadth of the scientific, scholarly, and creative activity that they help to create on the Stony Brook campus. In addition to performance and art exhibits, there are biographies, novels and memoirs, as well as books on anthropology, art, computer science, cultural analysis, ecology and evolution, history, literature, music, political science, and other disciplines, showcased.

Academic Achievement Banquet

On Friday, November 6, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. in the Center for Leadership and Service, Lower Level Benedict College, H Quad, SBU will host its annual Academic Achievement Banquet to honor students who have demonstrated extraordinary competence, and have excelled in their academic and extracurricular pursuits here at Stony Brook; students who achieved a 4.0 GPA in the Spring 2015 semester and who hold at least a 3.85 cumulative GPA. Many of the students who were recognized at this event, in addition to academic demands, have jobs or familial responsibilities, and are involved in innovative research, creative activities and service.

Mattoo Center for India Studies' Annual Benefit Gala

On Sunday, November 1, 2015, the Mattoo Center for India Studies hosted its annual benefit gala celebrating the many accomplishments of the Center and to support its \$2.5 million endowment campaign. The Mattoo Center for India Studies has brought to Stony Brook a treasury of human achievement—the intellectual heritage and history of a whole subcontinent. The students who pass through its courses, and those who make use of its programs, are privileged that such a fine resource is to be found on our campus. Over the last 20 years, the Center: brought India to more than 20,000 students enrolled in its courses; helped to establish the Department of Asian and Asian American Studies at SBU; equipped the India Reference Library and Multimedia Center with over 10,000 titles and two special collections; and instituted the largest permanent endowment for India Studies at a public university in the United States, including the Nirmal and Augustina Endowed Chair in Classical Indic Humanities. The Center has received many scholarly recognitions for its prestigious publications and competitive grants. It also exemplifies the ways in which academic excellence and community service can complement each other, with its students and faculty having conducted over 200 outreach programs—from local schools to major museums.

Chemistry Research Day at Stony Brook

On Friday, October 23, 2015, we celebrated the 57th anniversary of our Chemistry Department here at Stony Brook University by hosting Chemistry Research Day—an annual showcase and celebration which featured poster presentations by graduate students, undergraduates, and

postdoctoral researchers highlighting the wide range of study in the department. In addition to Stony Brook faculty, staff and students, this event included attendees from Brookhaven National Laboratory, area schools, and industry. Chemistry Research Day acts as a 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.

12TH International Conference and Expo on Emerging Technologies for a Smarter World

On October 19-20, 2015, Stony Brook University hosted the “12th International Conference and Expo on Emerging Technologies for a Smarter World.” This premier international forum allows for a much-needed discussion of innovative applications of emerging technologies in infrastructure, healthcare, and energy, which are three of the most critical components of a smarter global environment. This two-day conference featured a 30+ exhibitor show floor with specialized B2B forums and over 55 high profile presenters in multiple parallel sessions on health technologies, medical devices, visual computing, mobile computing, cybersecurity, big data analytics, information technology and society, the internet of things, smart infrastructure, and smart energy. The CEWIT 2015 program has built a significant business culture providing a wide range of entrepreneurial and technological gain for participating organizations. Access to target audiences, international delegations, and industry-gear tracks, as well as outlets for extensive business-to-business networking and optimal solutions visibility have continuously garnered over 130 major national and international companies and universities to the event, including major company delegations from Israel and Korea.