TO: University Senate

FROM: Harold L. Paz, MD, MS
Executive Vice President for Health Sciences, Stony Brook University
CEO, Stony Brook University Medicine

DATE: August 28, 2023

SUBJECT: EVPHS/CEO Report

ACADEMIC UPDATES

Long Island State Veterans Home and the School of Nursing Form New Partnership

The School of Nursing and the Long Island State Veterans Home (LISVH) welcomed their first cohort of students enrolled in a novel partnership. Selected students are enrolled in the Registered Nurse to Baccalaureate Program (RNBP) while working at LISVH. The cost of each student’s program is paid in full by LISVH with support from a federal grant. Students commit to working at LISVH for the two years in the program and one-year post-graduation. The partnership offers nurses with associate’s degrees the opportunity to increase their skills and education, while providing LISVH nurses with specific training to support the geriatric population.

School of Dental Medicine Celebrates 50 Years

The School of Dental Medicine (SDM) will welcome alumni back to campus for its 50th anniversary celebration on September 8 and 9, culminating with festivities at the Bauman Center. The headlining event of the evening will be Conversations with SDM luminaries, including Drs. Philias Garant (dean, 1979-1994), Vincent Iacono (faculty, 1974-present) and Ira Lamster (charter class graduate and past dean at Columbia). SDM will also unveil the school’s new ceremonial mace, which will commemorate 50 years of service to the profession and public.

School of Public Health Study Completed

A final report studying the benefits of creating a School of Public Health has been submitted to President McInnis. This report is the culmination of an internal self-study, evaluations by three external Deans of Schools of Public Health, a business plan by Huron and an internal financial plan.

CAPRA Approves Center for Interprofessional Innovation

CAPRA has voted to approve Stony Brook Medicine’s preliminary proposal for the new Center for Interprofessional Innovation (CIPI). This Center will serve as a catalyst for collaborations between various Schools and Colleges, fostering excellence through interdisciplinary initiatives that leverage each program’s strengths to enhance population health, train future healthcare leaders,
and refine healthcare delivery methods. It will promote and align with best practices in Interprofessional Practice and Education (IPE) and collaborative practice to enhance health care, improve population health, and reduce the overall cost of care, thereby transforming health care delivery and population health in non-clinical community-based settings.

**School of Health Professions Faculty Selected for 2023 ASAHP Interprofessional Grant**

School of Health Professions faculty members Kelly Warren, PhD, Sharon Martino, PT, PhD, and Jillian O'Brien, MPAS, PA-C have been selected for a 2023 Association of Schools Advancing Health Professions (ASAHP) Interprofessional Innovation Grant for their project, "Interprofessional collaboration to advance the health and wellness of graduate students in allied health professional programs." The grant provides support for interprofessional collaboration research to improve health and education in local communities.

**Hants Williams and Rajiv Lajmi Receive Innovative Instruction Technology Grant**

Hants Williams, PhD, RN, Clinical Assistant Professor, Applied Health Informatics, and Rajiv Lajmi, MBA, MS, PMP, Clinical Assistant Professor and Program Director of Applied Health Informatics received an Innovative Instruction Technology Grant from the Office of the SUNY Provost and the Innovative Instruction Research Council (IIRC). The proposal, The Cloud Learning Studio (CLAS) for Educational Content Creation, was selected for funding in 2023-24 in the amount of $15,000.

**Center for Healthy Aging Launches Pilot Research, Issues Grant Application**

The Center for Healthy Aging held its first internal symposium and awarded two pilot research projects to collaborating scientists. The Center also issued its first request for applications for research grants, due September 15. A meeting was held to bring together researchers on various aspects of tick-borne diseases for the purpose of competing for federal funds.

**School of Social Welfare Awarded NYS Grant to Train and Expand Addiction Workforce**

The School of Social Welfare has established a new partnership with the New York State Office of Addiction Services and Supports (OASAS) that will strengthen the addictions services workforce in New York State. OASAS is funding this initiative through the Opioid Settlement, which identifies expansion of harm reduction and treatment as top priorities. This partnership with OASAS will provide scholarship funding for training that will lead to Credentialed Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Counselor (CASAC) credentialing for direct care providers.

**James Pierre-Glaude Receives NY-APTA New York Chapter Appreciation Award**

James Pierre-Glaude, PT, DPT, ATC, Clinical Assistant Professor of Physical Therapy, and Director of the School of Health Professions Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion received an Appreciation Award from the New York Chapter of the American Physical Therapy Association.
The award is given to individuals who have fostered the ideas and/or ethics of physical therapy through service to the New York Chapter or the profession.

Afrinash Ahamad receives Women and Diversity Award from AANP

Afrinash Ahamad, MS MLS (ASCP) received the Women and Diversity Award from the American Association of Neuropathologists (AANP) for her project on Metabolism and the Adult Brain. She will present her work at the AANP 99th Annual Meeting this summer.

Zachary Morris Conducts Survey as Part of HHS Faculty Grant Project

As part of a three-year Field Initiated Research Project grant from the US Department of Health and Human Services, Assistant Professor Zachary Morris led the design and deployment of a survey on out-of-pocket costs and unmet needs for adults with disabilities. The survey is the first of its kind and one of the most comprehensive national surveys to date of adults with disabilities. Data from the survey will be analyzed and released as a policy brief this upcoming year.

School of Nursing Hosts Students from the Korea Armed Forces Nurses Academy (KAFNA) and Cheju Halla University

Twelve nursing students from South Korea visited the School of Nursing (SON) as part of a longstanding partnership, promoting global knowledge sharing and cultural understanding with Korea Armed Forces Nursing Academy and Cheju Halla University. The students met with the Executive Vice President for Health Sciences, Dr. Hal Paz, attended a lecture with the Director of Simulation Education, Sofia Reyes, and attended a presentation by Stony Brook University Hospital (SBUH) Chief Nursing Officer, Carolyn Santora. They enjoyed an afternoon in the SON Bed Lab learning about medication administration and toured SBUH as part of their visit.

School of Health Professions Attends Innovations in Technology Expo

Occupational Therapy and Physical Therapy students and faculty participated in the Innovations in Technology Expo on July 25. Empower Spinal Cord Injury, Inc. ran its residential summer program for adults with spinal cord injuries, where SHP students volunteered as residential aides, gained hands-on opportunities to learn from people with spinal cord injuries and assisted in problem solving inefficiencies or issues with movement and self-care activities.

Jeannie Guglielmo Selected for CELT Teaching Award

Jeannie Guglielmo, MS, MAT, MLS(ASCP)CM, Clinical Associate Professor and Chair of Clinical Laboratory Sciences, has been selected for a Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching (CELT) Teaching Excellence Award. Each year, the CELT hosts the Celebration of Teaching in which excellent educators are recognized for their efforts.
School of Health Professions Students Receive Scholarships in Diversity and Inclusion

Natalia Umanzor, third year Occupational Therapy student, and Tiffany Blanco, second year Speech-Language Pathology student, received Exxat Scholarships in the area of Diversity and Inclusion. The awards acknowledge the outstanding efforts of students in Healthcare Education who promote diversity and inclusion in the healthcare workforce, leading to improved healthcare outcomes for all.

CLINICAL UPDATES

Stony Brook Medicine Unveils Strategic Plan

In the past month, Stony Brook Medicine unveiled its comprehensive Strategic Plan, which outlines the organization’s roadmap for the foreseeable future. This strategic blueprint aims to guide Stony Brook Medicine’s growth and initiatives in the coming years. An overview is available on the SBM Strategic Plan website.

Catholic Health Update

Strategic collaboration meetings with Catholic Health are ongoing.

Stony Brook Medicine Integration Plan

Alignment and integration efforts continue to proceed across Stony Brook Medicine.

Service Line Strategies

A crucial aspect of Stony Brook Medicine’s growth strategy involves the formulation of comprehensive service line strategies and operational plans. This initiative, scheduled to commence later this month, aims to align service line expansion with the broader Stony Brook Medicine Strategic Plan, ensuring a unified and strategic approach to growth.

Lake Grove Facility Opening

The inauguration of the Stony Brook Advanced Specialty Care at Lake Grove was met with considerable enthusiasm. Attendees at the ribbon-cutting ceremony included donors, community leaders, Stony Brook representatives and numerous others. Media coverage was extensive, with highlights including coverage on NBC News Radio (nationwide), feature stories in local publications such as Times Beacon Record, and video segments on Newsday TV and News 12. This facility, situated within the former Sears Dept. Store at Smith Haven Mall, boasts accessibility, with plenty of available parking, public transportation and high visibility on Route 347. The space allows patients to make appointments with numerous providers on the same day.

Stony Brook University Hospital Prepares for Quality Assessment Review Board Visit
Members of the Quality Assessment Review Board are scheduled to visit the Stony Brook University Hospital campus in September. This visit will encompass a comprehensive tour of facilities and an in-person meeting.

**Update on Searches and Recruitment**

The Cancer Center Director position is in the final stages of recruitment, with potential candidates in the process of visiting the campus for further evaluation. Meanwhile, the search for a Chief Administrative Officer for Stony Brook Southampton Hospital is well underway. Chaired by Carol Gomes, CEO/COO, Stony Brook University Hospital, the search committee has been meeting with initial candidates virtually.

**ADDITIONAL SBM NEWS**

**Renaissance School of Medicine Admissions**

The admissions process for the 2023 entering class at the Renaissance School of Medicine has been completed. A total of 5,470 applications were received, resulting in 849 applicants interviewed. Ultimately, 468 offers were extended to constitute a class of 136 students. Notably, the incoming class features a diverse demographic profile, with 54 percent female students and a 20 percent representation from traditionally marginalized communities in medicine, up from 18 percent in the 2022 entering class. Additionally, 77 percent of the students hail from New York State, while the remaining 23 percent represent ten other states and international locations.

**RSOM Welcomes Future MDs in White Coat Ceremony**

The Renaissance School of Medicine (RSOM) held its annual White Coat Ceremony on August 11, as 136 incoming students donned their physician “white coats” and took the Hippocratic Oath for the first time.

Held at Stony Brook University’s Staller Center, the annual ceremony brought students, their families and faculty together as the academic year begins and members of the Class of 2027 embark on their journeys toward becoming physicians. The RSOM has held the White Coat Ceremony since 1998.

**LILAC Grant Enables Researchers to Gain Deeper Insight into Mechanisms of Cancer**

Daniel Canals, PhD, a research assistant professor at the Stony Brook Cancer Center, has received a grant from the Long Island League to Abolish Cancer (LILAC) for the purchase of two cutting-edge instruments that enable him and colleagues to better understand how lipids are regulated in cancer, and in turn, the many functions that lipids perform in cancer cells. The instruments — the Scilogex Spectrophotometer and Benchmark Scientific BV1010, BenchMixer (Vortexer) — work together to measure ceramide molecules on the plasma membranes of both
normal cells and cancerous cells, allowing researchers to gain a deeper insight into the mechanisms of cancer by comparing the normal cells to the cancerous ones.

**SBSH Opens Regional Tick-Borne Disease Center**

Stony Brook Southampton Hospital's Regional Tick-Borne Disease Center opened on August 14, in the Hampton Bays Atrium and is clinically supported by physicians from Stony Brook Medicine’s Meeting House Lane Medical Practice and Stony Brook Children’s Hospital. This on-site dedicated team of infectious disease specialists will treat children and adults for tick bites and diagnose tick-borne illnesses, by appointment only. The center is the first and only dedicated tick clinic in the Northeast.

**Science and Research Awareness Series Introduces Students to Healthcare Fields**

From forensics to robotic surgery, high school and undergraduate students participating in the 19th annual Science and Research Awareness Series (SARAS), sponsored by the Department of Anesthesiology, enjoyed lectures, workshops, discussions, and hands-on experiences related to topics in biomedical sciences. About 130 students from Long Island and other local areas attended the three-week program, held July 10-28, to get a first-hand understanding of various healthcare fields. Stony Brook Medicine physicians, nurses, EMTs, researchers and other health professionals dedicated their time to teach SARAS students about the impact of healthcare fields on individual health and society.