

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** University Senate

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

**DATE:** April 1, 2019

**SUBJECT:** President's Report

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**I. REMEMBERING DR. CARLOS VIDAL, INTERIM DEAN OF THE SCHOOL OF HEALTH TECHNOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT**

Stony Brook University is mourning the loss of one of our leaders and advocates, **Dr. Carlos Vidal**, Interim Dean of the Stony Brook University School of Health Technology and Management. A two-time Stony Brook alumnus, Carlos was deeply committed to his alma mater. He earned his bachelor's degree in Social Welfare in 1976 and his master's of Social Work from Stony Brook University, and his Doctor of Social Work and PhD degrees from the Graduate School of Social Services at Fordham University, specializing in child welfare research. He first joined the Stony Brook University School of Social Welfare faculty in 1978, and rose through the academic ranks of that School, eventually becoming Associate Dean for External Affairs and Development. Carlos then moved to the School of Health Technology and Management as Associate Dean for Community Engagement and Development and then as Associate Dean of Operations. He became Interim Dean in January 2018. He also held a faculty appointment as Associate Professor in the Department of Africana Studies and was an Affiliate Associate Professor in the Latin American and Caribbean Studies Center at Stony Brook University.

Losing Carlos is a truly significant loss to Stony Brook University. He made extraordinary contributions through his work in the community, through his research that looked into today's most significant social and cultural issues; and in his work with our students and faculty. He leaves a lasting and indelible impact on the SBU campus community, the community at large and the region we serve.

**II. BUDGET MESSAGE**

On March 25, I issued a message to all faculty and staff regarding the University's current financial status and where we are headed. I encourage you to take the time to read this [message](#).

**III. ADVANCEMENT UPDATE**

Since the beginning of the fiscal year on July 1, we have secured a total of \$30.1 million from 9,686 donors. The following are the most recent examples of how our generous

donors are investing in our University community:

- \$600,000 for a study on Regenerative and Restorative Aquaculture
- \$420,000 for the SOS Biodiversity/Lemur Research Complex
- \$100,000 for scholarships
- \$90,000 for the Pediatric Emergency Department Expansion

#### **IV. SCIENCE AND SECURITY**

On March 11, 2019, I joined the U.S. Director of the National Counterintelligence and Security Center, **William Evanina**, on a panel entitled “Science, Security, and Foreign Influence: Insights from Federal Agencies and Higher Education Leadership” at the American Council on Education Conference in Philadelphia. During the presentation, I highlighted my recent work on the NIH Director’s Advisory Board that was tasked with making recommendations on foreign influences on U.S. research. Research universities are being asked by funders to increase awareness of the potential for foreign influence in the research arena. The Advisory Board outlined in its final [report](#) that institutions must follow their own policies on conflict of commitment and conflict of interest, make sure that faculty are fully disclosing their sources of funding and collaborators, and develop methods to verify that such reporting is accurate. It is critical to ensure that the actions of a few individuals and foreign governments do not lead to widespread restrictions on international collaborations, which would inhibit the ability of international students and scientists to contribute to research in the United States. My efforts in this area are focused on making sure that the perspectives of universities, research centers, and researchers are represented when national policy decisions are being made in these critical areas.

#### **V. UNIVERSITY ACCOLADES**

##### **Stony Brook University Hospital Named One of America’s 100 Best**

Stony Brook University Hospital has been named one of “America’s 100 Best Hospitals” for 2019 by Healthgrades, the first organization in the country to rate hospital quality based on actual clinical outcomes. As one of Healthgrade’s “100 Best Hospitals,” Stony Brook University Hospital is in the top 2 percent of hospitals nationwide and one of only four hospitals in New York State for exhibiting clinical excellence year after year. Stony Brook was also named one of America’s 100 Best Hospitals for cardiac care, coronary intervention, and stroke care. Recipients of the America’s 100 Best Hospitals Award are recognized for overall clinical excellence based on quality outcomes for 32 conditions and procedures. Healthgrades reviews three years of Medicare inpatient data, comparing actual to predicted performance for specific patient outcomes. This year’s awards are based on data collected from 2015 to 2017.

##### **Stony Brook Programs Move Up on US News’ Best Grad Schools List**

The *U.S. News and World Report* has released its annual graduate school rankings for 2020, and Stony Brook University was named a top school in Engineering and in Medicine. The College of Engineering and Applied Sciences rose from being ranked 66 in 2018 to 64 (tie) as a Best

Engineering School. Several engineering graduate programs in the school jumped in ranking from last year: Electrical Engineering (69 to 55); Chemical Engineering (72 to 69); Materials Science (50 to 41); and Mechanical Engineering (70 to 52). The Renaissance School of Medicine at Stony Brook University went up a step and was ranked #56 (tie) in the Research category as a Best Medical School. Stony Brook's highest ranked graduate program is the Physician Assistant Program in the School of Health Technology and Management — which rose a step to #15 in the current ranking. The School of Social Welfare rose from 59 to 51. For a complete list of the rankings and methodology of the 2020 Best Graduate Schools by U.S. News, [see this link](#).

### **Stony Brook Ranked Third Best University in the Nation by Ladders**

Stony Brook University is the third best 'total-package college' nationwide, according to Ladders, a job search organization that ranks higher education institutions by calculating the most common ranking factors and factoring in the cost of education. Stony Brook is ranked first in New York state and third nationwide, behind Princeton and UC Berkeley. "When you factor in cost, Stony Brook topples Columbia by a huge amount, with close to \$50,000 in state tuition savings annually, to be precise," Ladders wrote. "Stony Brook University also boasts a great track record when it comes to job prospects, career earnings, and competitiveness."

## **VI. UNIVERSITY HIGHLIGHTS DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION THROUGH CALENDAR**

The Calendar to Promote Diversity and Inclusion highlights programming and community engagement efforts across the University that recognize the culture, traditions, contributions, and struggles of identity groups that have historically experienced oppression. This initiative works toward cultivating a campus environment in which all members can thrive both socially and academically, and where individuals of multiple identities feel included, safe, and recognized as free and full participants of the Stony Brook University community. Everyone on campus is encouraged to submit their events and activities relevant to diversity and inclusion. Submitting events to the calendar only takes a couple of minutes – simply fill out this short online [form](#).

## **VII. RECENT EVENTS**

### **ADA Colloquium**

On March 27, my ADA Advisory Committee hosted its first-ever ADA Colloquium – Education & Exploration: Learning Today & a Path for Tomorrow. Roughly 100 faculty, staff, and students from across campus attended the event, which featured nationally known disability lawyer and consultant, **Jeanne Kincaid**. Her keynote presentation addressed foundational accessibility principles and the changing landscape of disability.

### **Annual Awards Ceremony Highlights Stellar Service**

The annual Service Awards Ceremony took place on March 5 to honor employees marking 25 years or more of service to the University. The luncheon and award ceremony celebrated individuals reaching the 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, and 50-year milestones and included a recognition ceremony. A total of 343 people achieved recognized levels of service in 2018: 152 celebrated 25 years, 113 reached 30 years, 54 reached 35 years, ten reached 40 years, ten reached 45 years, and four reached

50 years of service. The complete list of this year's honorees is available at: <https://news.stonybrook.edu/university/annual-ceremony-celebrates-service/>.

## VIII. UPCOMING EVENTS

### Stars of Stony Brook Gala 2019

The Stars of Stony Brook Gala will be held on **Wednesday, April 10 at Pier Sixty in New York City** and will honor distinguished alumnae and President of the Simons Foundation, **Marilyn H. Simons** '74, PhD '84, Hon. '08. For more information about the Gala, please visit: <https://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/gala/>

### Discovery Prize Competition

The 2019 Discovery Prize Competition will take place on **Tuesday, April 23, 2019 at 2:30 PM** in the Charles B. Wang Center Theater. This \$200,000 prize, free of indirect costs, will be awarded to a scholar in the STEM disciplines whose research project embraces risk and innovation, the catalysts for scientific advances. To attend the Discovery Prize Competition, please register [here](#).

## IX. ATHLETICS UPDATE<sup>1</sup>

### Winter Sports

- **Geno Ford** has been named head coach of the Stony Brook men's basketball team. **Jeff Boals** has left Stony Brook to assume head coaching duties at his alma mater, Ohio University. A press conference will take place on **Tuesday, April 2 at 11 AM** at the Island Federal Credit Union Arena. Ford served as the Associate Head Coach at Stony Brook for the past three seasons and was previously the head coach at Kent State University and Bradley University. While at Kent State, Ford was twice named as the Mid-American Conference Coach of the Year.
- Men's Basketball finished the season with a 24-9 record. Their 24 regular season wins were the most in Division I program history. Sophomore center **Jeff Otchere** was named America East Defensive Player of the Year, while sophomore **Andrew Garcia** was honored as the Sixth Man of the Year. Junior **Akwasi Yeboah** earned First-Team honors.
- Women's Basketball finished with a record of 23-8, and reached the semifinals of the America East Playoffs. Seniors **Shania "Shorty" Johnson** and **Jerell Matthews** earned First-Team honors.

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<sup>1</sup> As of March 26

## Spring Sports

- Senior tennis student-athlete **Ana Carrion Rodriguez** was selected to receive the 2019 Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence. Ana is a double major in Political Science and Spanish Literature and has a 3.86 cumulative GPA.