

**TO:** University Senate  
**FROM:** William Wertheim, MD, MBA  
Executive Vice President for Stony Brook Medicine  
**DATE:** March 3, 2025  
**SUBJECT:** SBM EVP Report

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### **Announcement of Incoming President Andrea Goldsmith, PhD**

The announcement of Dr. Andrea Goldsmith being appointed Stony Brook University's seventh president was sent across Stony Brook Medicine (SBM). As President, Dr. Goldsmith will serve as Stony Brook University Hospital's (SBUH) Governing Body. A six month+ plan has been developed to provide her with an overview of the SBM academic system including the health sciences and visits to SBM's East End Hospitals.

### **ACADEMIC UPDATES**

#### **School of Nursing's Online Master's Program Ranked in US News & World Report Top 10**

The Stony Brook School of Nursing's online master's program placed in the top 10 in the *U.S. News & World Report Best Online Programs Rankings* for the sixth year in a row. Ranked 8th this year, the program moved up one spot from last year and is the only program of its kind in New York State to achieve a Top 10 ranking this year. Programs are evaluated based on engagement, faculty credentials, and peer assessment.

#### **Radiation Therapy and Medical Dosimetry Programs Receive Maximum Re-Accreditation**

The School of Health Professions programs in Radiation Therapy and Medical Dosimetry earned the maximum re-accreditation award of eight years from the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology (JRCERT). The site visit team commented positively on the curriculum, diverse clinical opportunities, formative and summative assessment measures, student support, and dedicated faculty. This achievement reflects the exemplary work of the educators and highlights Stony Brook's partnership with the Mount Sinai Health System and its Center for Radiation Sciences Education.

#### **[School of Dental Medicine Class of 2025 Shines in Annual Residency Match](#)**

Following another successful year for those entering the Postdoctoral Residency Matching Program, the course is set for Stony Brook School of Dental Medicine's Class of 2025. All 47 students successfully secured placements in a wide array of residency programs in New York State and around the country, including one soon-to-be graduate who will begin his service in the United States Navy Dental Corps this summer.

This year's class will embark on their careers across 11 states, joining residency programs in general dentistry, oral and maxillofacial surgery, orthodontics, pediatric dentistry, periodontics and prosthodontics.

#### **Drug to Treat Neuropathy Advances in Clinical Trials ([SB News](#))**

Artelo Biosciences' investigational non-opioid drug, ART26.12, has successfully passed an initial safety review in its first-in-human clinical trial and will proceed to higher dose testing. Discovered and initially co-developed by Dr. Martin Kaczocha of the RSOM's Department of Anesthesiology and Dr. Iwao Ojima from Stony Brook's Department of Chemistry, ART26.12 is a selective FABP5 inhibitor that targets neuropathic pain, particularly chemotherapy-induced peripheral neuropathy, which affects millions in the U.S. The drug is part of Artelo's broader FABP platform, with potential applications in cancer, osteoarthritis, psoriasis and anxiety. The study's progress marks a significant step in developing new, non-opioid pain treatments. With ongoing collaboration from Dr. Kaczocha and Dr. Ojima, the trial now advances to higher-dose testing.

#### **School of Social Welfare Shines at Annual Keys For Homeless Conference**

SSW students, alumni, and faculty presented at the LI Coalition for Homeless annual conference in December. The students presented, "Transformation from the Inside Out: Using a Rights-Based Approach to Reimagine Services for our Unsheltered Neighbors," an interactive presentation on using a rights-based framework to guide how services and policies are designed. Participants were invited to collaborate on imagining what social services could and should look like. Students and other participants used their personal experiences and practice wisdom along with research and policy to talk about social change. At the end of the workshop small groups of attendees brainstormed ideas to transform the barriers in the current housing system.

#### **Maria Basile Elected Fellow of The College of Physicians of Philadelphia**

Dr. Maria Basile, Clinical Assistant Professor in the Renaissance School of Medicine's Department of Family, Population & Preventive Medicine and Associate Director of the Center for Medical Humanities, Compassionate Care and Bioethics, was elected as a Fellow of The College of Physicians of Philadelphia. This prestigious honor recognizes excellence in medicine, contributions to medical knowledge, and a commitment to public health and ethics. Her election reflects her unwavering dedication to the field and her profound impact on the medical community. Dr. Basile will be officially inducted in May.

#### **Katie Scarbrough Marks Achievements in Travel Medicine, Preventive Medicine**

Dr. Katie Scarbrough, Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of Family, Population & Preventive Medicine and Course Director, Fundamentals of Program Planning – Health Behavior and Communication, recently achieved two significant milestones. She earned her Certificate of

Travel Health from the International Society of Travel Medicine, highlighting her expertise and commitment to the field as she continues her work in the department's Travel Medicine Clinic. Dr. Scarbrough was also elected as a Fellow of the American College of Preventive Medicine, a peer-awarded honor recognizing her service and engagement in preventive medicine and the ACPM community.

#### **Keith A. Chadwick Honored by the Triological Society**

Keith A. Chadwick from the Department of Surgery's Division of Otolaryngology–Head and Neck Surgery (ENT), was recently honored in two ways: He was inducted as an Active Fellow of the prestigious Triological Society and received the 2024 Harris P. Mosher Award for Excellence in Clinical Research. The Triological Society, founded over 125 years ago, recognizes excellence in academic and clinical otolaryngology, with membership requiring a peer-reviewed thesis. Dr. Chadwick's award-winning Triological thesis, "Prospective Outcomes of Microlaryngoscopy Versus Office Laser Photoangiolytic for Vocal Fold Polyps" earned him the Mosher Award.

#### **School of Health Professions Faculty, Staff Selected to Serve on ASAHP Leadership Committees**

Jeannie Guglielmo, Chair and Clinical Associate Professor, Department of Clinical Lab Sciences, has been selected to serve on the Association of Schools Advancing Health Professions (ASAHP) Leadership Development Committee. This two-year term comes after Jeannie's five years of service to the ASAHP Education Committee.

#### **School of Social Welfare Students, Alumni, and Faculty Volunteer to Survey LI Unsheltered**

Clinical Associate Professor Leah Topek-Walker, current MSW student Ashley Smith, and MSW alum Amanda Sanford, '23 participated in the Long Island Point in Time (PIT) Count in January. The initiative seeks to capture a snapshot of how many people on Long Island are experiencing Homelessness. The SSW contingent engaged with people on the street, distributed homeless supply kits, and conducted surveys to gather data to further local efforts to combat homelessness.

#### **Chris Burke and Agnes McConlogue Ferro Recognized as LI Business News Health Care Heroes**

Drs. Chris Burke and Agnes McConlogue Ferro, clinical associate professors in the Department of Physical Therapy, have been recognized as Long Island Business News (LIBN) Health Care Heroes. These LIBN awards recognize excellence, promote innovation, and honor the efforts of organizations and individuals making a significant impact on healthcare quality in our area.

#### **School of Social Welfare Advocates in Albany**

SSW faculty, students, and alumni gathered with allies including Social Workers for Justice for a powerful Day of Action in Albany on January 22, advocating for equity and access in the



profession. Together with passionate colleagues they rallied, shared testimonies, and pushed for policies that will help build a stronger, more diverse workforce.

**Remembering John C. Pomeroy, Founding Director of the Cody Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities ([SB News](#))**

The Renaissance School of Medicine mourns the passing of Dr. John C. Pomeroy on January 12. An Associate Professor of Psychiatry and Pediatrics at Stony Brook University Medical Center, Dr. Pomeroy's impact at Stony Brook was profound and wide-ranging. As the founding director of the Matt and Debra Cody Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities, he played a pivotal role in providing comprehensive and multidisciplinary services, from diagnosis and education to research, clinical care and outreach, to countless individuals. Dr. Pomeroy was also Stony Brook's first Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist and a dedicated clinician, educator and researcher who helped shape psychiatric care on Long Island. His leadership led to groundbreaking programs in diagnosis, treatment and professional training, profoundly impacting the community. His contributions continue to influence the field, enriching the lives of countless families. Dr. Pomeroy is survived by his wife, Julia, their children Zara and Jonathan, his son-in-law John, grandchildren Sienna and Isla, and his sister, Jackie.

**19th Annual Women in Medicine & Science Research Day on March 5th**

The 19th Annual Women in Medicine & Science Research Day will be held on Wednesday, March 5, from 8:00 AM to 1:30 PM in the Health Sciences Center. Organized by the Renaissance School of Medicine's Office of Faculty Affairs and the Group for Women in Medicine and Science, the event raises awareness about challenges women face in medical training, healthcare, science and research while also celebrating their remarkable discoveries and achievements. Event highlights will include a panel discussion on "Connecting and Supporting"; abstract and poster presentations with awards, and a keynote address by Merit Cudkowicz, Chief of Neurology at Massachusetts General Hospital, Director of the Sean M. Healey & AMG Center for ALS, and Julieanne Dorn, Professor of Neurology at Harvard Medical School.

**CLINICAL UPDATES**

***Stony Brook Medicine Advocacy:***

- Dr. Wertheim was in Washington DC to meet with Congressman LaLota to thank him for his support for his safety-net hospital bill that could save SB \$53M. He also met with staff from Senators Schumer and Gillibrand and Representatives Suozzi and Gillen's offices. Topics of discussions included:
  - NIH F&A Executive Order: Discussions included the impact that cutting indirect costs on NIH funded research would cost SBM millions of dollars and would impact lifesaving research. We are hopeful of a bipartisan solution. On February 15<sup>th</sup>, Dr.



- Wertheim also joined Interim President Richard McCormick at a press conference hosted by Senator Schumer at Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory calling attention to the importance of funding research.
- Medicaid & Medicare: These programs are vital, as 30% of Stony Brook’s discharges are Medicaid or uninsured, and almost half are Medicare. Any changes could negatively impact Stony Brook, especially amid cash flow challenges due to delayed FEMA claims, DSH, and other factors.
  - DSH (Disproportionate Share Hospital) Funding: A top priority. We stressed the need to defer or permanently eliminate ACA-related DSH cuts.
  - Graduate Medical Education (GME): Proposed reductions would significantly impact Stony Brook’s healthcare delivery and training of medical residents and students (approx. 600 students). Proposals may block grant GME, cutting or reducing growth and possibly redirecting new or existing slots.
- Dr. Wertheim was in Albany on February 24<sup>th</sup> to discuss state budget and legislative priorities with legislators. Meetings with Senate and Assembly Health Chairs, Senator Gustavo Rivera and Assemblywoman Amy Paulin, Senator Anthony Palumbo (East End Senator) and Assemblyman Tommy John Schiavoni (South Fork Assemblyman) Key topics:
    - **SUNY Hospital Debt Service** – Unlike the rest of SUNY, the three (3) SUNY hospitals do not statutorily have their capital debt service payments covered by the State. For the past two budget cycles, the Legislature has rejected the debt service sweep – the Office of the State Comptroller “taking” the three hospitals’ debt service payments. The amount of the debt service payment varies each year, but in this fiscal year, rejecting the debt service sweep will save SBUH \$22 million.

While we hope the Legislature will continue to reject the debt service sweep, we hope the Enacted Budget will have language to make the State responsible for SUNY Hospital debt service payments in perpetuity.

    - **Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) Spin Up** – Federal law requires state Medicaid programs make DSH payments to qualifying hospitals that serve a large number of Medicaid and uninsured individuals. How the State implements their DSH payments is more or less up to the State. In New York, we receive only 25% of the fiscal year’s DSH payments, with the remaining 75% coming 3 years later. This “lag” poses substantial, ongoing cash flow issues.



- Local Meetings
  - Dr. Wertheim and Carol Gomes welcomed newly elected Assemblywoman Rebecca Kassay to the hospital for an overview and tour of the Stony Brook Cancer Center, Children’s Hospital and the Ronald McDonald House Family Room at SBUH. Assemblywoman Kassay’s district includes both east and west campuses. She has submitted a request to continue a \$1M annual grant to the Cancer Center to help efforts to gain NCI status from the NIH. She has also submitted a request for \$5M in funding to help towards the construction of the Ronald McDonald House on east campus.
  - Meetings with elected officials and community leaders are important evident by Suffolk County Executive Ed Romaine who recently met with the Newsday Editorial Board prompting an editorial requesting the state and federal government to work together to release \$195M in FEMA money for SBU/SBM for COVID expenses.

#### **AWARDS, ACCOLADES, & NEWS**

- SBM has received the highest level of achievement from Healthgrades, as one of America’s 50 Best for 2025. This achievement places SBM among the top 1% nationwide for overall care excellence and is the only on Long Island to be ranked among America’s 50 Best. SBUH, Stony Brook Southampton Hospital, and Stony Brook Eastern Long Island Hospital are collectively assessed by Healthgrades and share the America’s 50 Best Hospitals Award™.

To determine the top hospitals for 2025, Healthgrades evaluated risk-adjusted mortality and complication rates for more than 30 conditions and procedures at approximately 4,500 hospitals nationwide. Healthgrades’ annual analysis revealed significant performance gaps between the nation’s highest- and lowest-achieving hospitals, making it increasingly important to seek care at a top-rated facility. The Best Hospitals Award comes on the heels of receiving numerous specialty awards this past fall, underscoring Stony Brook’s dedication to exceptional patient care. These include:

- The only in New York State to be recognized as one of America’s 100 Best Hospitals for Stroke Care for 10 years in a row (2016-2025)
- Five-Star Recipient for Treatment of Heart Attack (2022-2025)
- Five-Star Recipient for Treatment of Heart Failure (2014-2025)
- Five-Star Recipient for Cranial Neurosurgery (2020-2025)
- Five-Star Recipient for Treatment of Stroke (2015-2025)
- Neurosciences Excellence Award™ (2016-2025)
- Cranial Neurosurgery Excellence Award™ (2020-2025)
- Stroke Care Excellence Award™ (2016-2025)



- Five-Star Recipient for Treatment of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (2025)
- Five-Star Recipient for Treatment of GI Bleed (2024-2025)
- Five-Star Recipient for Treatment of Sepsis (2015-2025)
- Five-Star Recipient for Treatment of Respiratory Failure (2021-2025)
- Outpatient Orthopedic Surgery Excellence Award™ (2025)
- Five-Star Recipient for Outpatient Prostate Care Excellence (2025)
- Outpatient Prostate Care Excellence Award™ (2025)

As care variation grows, consumers can find and select a top-rated hospital to maximize their outcome. Consumers can visit [healthgrades.com](https://www.healthgrades.com) for guidance on how to find best-in-class care in 2025.

- The SUNY Board of Trustees has appointed Honorable Paul Tonna and Ms. Christina Vargas to fill the two vacancies on the SBUH Quality Assessment Review Board.

Paul Tonna is the Managing Partner of Praxis Public Relations, Inc. He brings over 30 years of healthcare experience, having previously served as Director of Personnel at St. Francis Hospital in Roslyn, New York, and CEO of Professional Evaluation Medical Group, a New York Metro-based preventive medical screening service. Paul was elected to the Suffolk County Legislature from 1994 to 2005, of which he was Presiding Officer for three years.

Christina Vargas is the Chief Diversity Officer and Title IX Coordinator at Suffolk County Community College. She is a former employee of Stony Brook University, where she held the same position. Christina earned both her bachelor's and master's degrees from Stony Brook University. She also served as President of the Stony Brook University Alumni Association and has been involved with several community organizations and advisory boards.

- East End Surgical has joined Stony Brook Medicine Community Medical Group, SBM's expanding network of community practices. With offices across multiple locations, including Mattituck, Greenport, Southold and Southampton, residents of the North and South Forks will have convenient access to high-quality surgical care close to home. The team at East End Surgical comprises highly skilled and experienced surgeons dedicated to serving the local community:
  - **Gurpreet Gill, MD, FACS, RPVI:** A board-certified vascular surgeon with more than 20 years of experience, Dr. Gill has expertise in all aspects of vascular surgery, including dialysis access, aortic aneurysm repair and venous insufficiency. He obtained his medical degree from Odesa National Medical University in Odesa,





Ukraine. He completed his preliminary general surgery residency at Drexel University College of Medicine in Philadelphia, PA, and his general surgery residency at Capital Health – East Trenton in Trenton, NJ, and University Health in Kansas City, MO. Dr. Gill completed his fellowship in vascular surgery at Charleston Area Medical Center in Charleston, WV.

- **Alexa-Rae Pesce, MD:** Specializing in general and acute care surgery, Dr. Pesce is dedicated to providing comprehensive and compassionate care throughout the communities she serves. She received her medical degree from Drexel University College of Medicine in Philadelphia, PA, and completed her residency at SBUH in Stony Brook, NY.
- **Luke Swaszek, MD:** A board-certified general surgeon with specialized training in minimally invasive surgery, Dr. Swaszek emphasizes building trust through clear communication and attentive listening to patients' concerns. He earned his medical degree from the Zucker School of Medicine in Hempstead, NY. He completed his residency in general surgery at Temple University Hospital in Philadelphia, PA, and his surgical fellowship at SBUH in Stony Brook, NY.

The addition of East End Surgical reflects SBM's mission to enhance healthcare accessibility for the East End communities.

- SBM partnered with the Suffolk Academy of Medicine to host a Galentine's Women's Health Fair aimed at empowering women in Suffolk County with valuable health resources and information. The free, community-focused event took place on Wednesday, February 12, 2025, at the Long Island Aquarium in Riverhead, NY.

The fair was open to all Suffolk County residents, 16 years and older and featured:

- Educational wellness demonstrations
- Talks with SBM health professionals, as well as other medical institutions, including experts in breast cancer, breast imaging, radiology, massage therapy, nutrition, exercise physiology and LGBTQ\* healthcare services.
- Sweet treats in honor of Valentine's Day
- Raffles



## **OPERATIONAL UPDATES**

### **Emergency Medicine:**

- The Emergency Department was recently notified that we have achieved Gold Level status as a Geriatric Emergency Department by the American College of Emergency Physicians. This recognition was achieved after a comprehensive review of our 1000+ page application and virtual site visit. We are one of only four other emergency departments in the State to have received this level of certification.

### **Heart Institute:**

- The Heart Institute is pleased to announce that Marie Horton has been selected as the incoming Nurse Manager (NM) for Invasive Cardiology. As a past Stony Brook employee Marie has held previous Stony Brook roles as a staff nurse in the CTICU, EP Lab, and as a clinician (nursing supervisor) in the EP Lab. She later transitioned to a Nurse Manager position at Huntington Hospital, where she gained valuable leadership experience and successfully oversaw the invasive labs, non-invasive, and holding area. In her new role, Marie will be responsible for nursing oversight of the Cardiac Catheterization Lab, Electrophysiology Lab, and Cardiac Holding Units.
- The structural heart team has completed its first tricuspid valve replacement procedure at SBUH. The Triclip is the only device that's FDA approved for trans catheter edge to edge repair of severe Tricuspid Regurgitation. The addition of the Tricuspid procedure brings Stony Brook to the forefront of providing innovative technology for structural heart procedures for our patients in Suffolk County.

### **Neurosciences Institute:**

- For about a year, efforts have been underway pertaining to the development of formal working relationships with school districts throughout Suffolk County. A centralized contracting process is being finalized, with a work group now meeting bi-weekly to plan administrative processes, patient access, clinical workflow and finances. This effort is a result of direct outreach from the Suffolk County Superintendent's Association requesting help in meeting students' healthcare needs. The initiative is beginning with both cognitive and behavioral health services where the demand is high, and the workforce limited. Our objectives include increasing the top-of-mind perception of Stony Brook Children's Hospital, improving access for patients/families, and supporting our communities.
- In comparison to other intensive care units (ICU), Neuro Critical Care (NCCU) has made significant improvements in hospital acquired infection (HAI) reductions. In 2024, NCCU was the only ICU to have zero HAIs in two targeted areas. The quality improvement efforts reflect the excellent work of a dedicated team focused on quality patient care.



#### **Surgical Services:**

- Led by Drs. Dhamija and Davoudi, patients can now experience bronchoscopies and lung biopsies using robotic navigation in the Main Operating Room. This new procedure helps to pinpoint the exact location of lesions using pre-operative imaging, reducing operating room time and recovery. Over 30 cases have been completed since the robot's arrival last quarter.
- Perioperative Leadership hosted its first Town Hall meeting earlier this month with over 500 surgical faculty, residents and nursing staff in attendance. The session was extremely well received and included updates on recent policy changes, operations, and safety initiatives. This will be an annual event going forward to continue to improve engagement and team building.

#### **Women's/Children's:**

- Congratulations to our Women's Service Line for once again being voted Best on Long Island for Maternity Ward for the 5th year in a row. SBUH is honored for repeated recognition as we continue to serve as a leader in women's health for Suffolk County residents.
- Stony Brook Children's is proud to announce that we are a finalist for the Long Island Imagine Awards. Stony Brook Children's is recognized for unparalleled social impact, comprehensive services and programs, community leadership, and education and harm prevention programs.
- Three new clinical trials are being initiated within Stony Brook Children's: Neonatal Precision Genomics at SBCH – Project Baby Lion Pilot (PI: T Diacovo/J. Heusel); Prospective Observational Study of Asymptomatic cCMV Transmission to Infants for Virological Evaluation in NYS (PI: A. Handel/S. Nachman); and Nicotine dependence, Carcinogen and Toxicant Exposure in Young Adults who Co-use E-cigarettes and Cannabis (PI: R. Boykan).

#### **Ancillary/Support Services:**

- The upgrade to the automation system renewal in the Central Core Lab – a multi-year plan to improve efficiency and space utilization in the Central Core Lab is nearing a final implementation phase with the contract approval for a new automated sample processing line and 3 new multiplexed analyzers (Abbott Alinity, chemistry, hematology, immunology testing). This project requires detailed logistical planning and infrastructure improvements to preserve current Core Lab workflows and testing services during the implementation phase. This important project demonstrates effective communication and coordination between the Department of Laboratories, SBUH Facilities, and the SBUH IT department. Pending approval from SBUH Facilities Planning, the vendor has the three new analyzers ready, and resources secured for delivery in the second week of February.



- The Radiology department has begun implementing AI integration into its MRI machines at Stony Brook Hospital. This advanced software will reduce scanning time by 40% while maintaining a high level of image quality. The system is expected to be fully operational by mid-to-late summer 2025.
- The Radiology Diagnostic Department completed the installation and training for its new Carestream single-plate scoliosis imaging system. This new plate technology reduces the radiation dose by 20% while capturing a single high-quality image of the full spine or full leg length, improving both image acquisition speed and overall quality.
- The Radiology department has recently acquired three new portable X-ray machines. These machines are equipped with the latest generation of imaging plates, offering higher image resolution and a reduction in radiation dose.
- Improvements made in the pharmacy's procurement/inventory management processes have resulted in significant wholesaler savings resulting from efficient invoice management. SBUH has achieved a 67% reduction in out-of-stock items over the past 10 years, even as drug shortages continue to increase.
- The automated dispensing cabinet (Pyxis) upgrade was completed this month. This upgrade will allow for improved inventory management for pharmaceuticals that are stocked outside of the pharmacy. It also allows for inventory transparency between the Main and Southampton Campuses.
- Cochlear Americas Corporation hosted a cochlear implant forum for community Audiologists to promote the Stony Brook Cochlear Implant Program. This forum was attended by 18 community Audiologists. Cochlear reported that it was the most well attended forum that they held recently. The audience asked many questions directed both at Cochlear Corporation and the Stony Brook Team. It also allowed the Audiologists to meet and speak to our surgeon. Since the forum, we received two referrals for Cochlear Implant evaluations from the attendees. There are further plans to meet with ENT groups and to promote our program further East.
- The Au Bon Pain restaurant opened on February 11 on the lobby level of the Hospital. This will provide staff, visitors and outpatients with an additional choice for dining and snacks.
- The Finance department reported rebates received from our Group Purchasing Organizations (Vizient, Premier and E&I cooperative) for medical supplies and pharmaceuticals totaling \$1,240,399 for the period of July 2024 through December 2024.
- For Recycling, SBUH increased corrugated cardboard and mixed plastic collection as follows:
  - **Corrugated Cardboard:**
    - 2023 – July through Oct equaled a monthly average of 63,305 lbs.
    - 2024 – July through Oct equaled a monthly average of 72,785 lbs.
    - Increase of 14.98%**

- **Mixed Plastic**

2023 – July through Nov equaled a monthly average of 956 lbs.

2024 – July through Nov equaled a monthly average of 1,166 lbs.

**Increase of 21.97%**

**Human Resources:**

***Recruiting and Retention***

- Voluntary Turnover rates remain well below the industry average of 15%.
- Job vacancies remain below the industry average of 19%.

Staffing Metric	SBELIH	SBSH	SBUH	Total
Total Employees	456	1329	8094	9879
Voluntary Separations	3	7	53	63
Annualized Voluntary Turnover Rate	7.89%	3.61%	7.86%	7.65%
Position Vacancies	75	98	357	530
Position Vacancy Rate	14.1%	6.87%	4.22%	5.09%

**Nursing:**

- Andrea Kabacinski, MS RN NEA-BC, AVP Nursing and Joseph Weiss MS, Quality Management Practitioner presented at the ECRI (Institute for Safe Medication Practices) PSO (Patient Safety Organization) Annual Meeting “Navigating Healthcare Towards a Safer Tomorrow. The presentation is titled **“Decreasing Patient Injuries from Falls: A Multipronged Approach to Improving Outcomes.”** The team reviewed the work the hospital has accomplished to decrease falls with injury and injury severity.
- The Department of Nursing Professional Development & Education successfully submitted an abstract that was accepted for Poster Presentation, and another accepted for a SPARK presentation at the Vizient/AACN Nurse Residency Conference. The poster is entitled **“Modernization of Dissemination – Revising Nurse Residency Project Presentations”**. This body of work details accomplishments over the past year to increase professionalism of the projects and to reflect evidence-based practice (EBP) changes. The SPARK presentation is entitled **“EBP (Evidence-Based Practice) After Residency: Partnering with Mentors for Implementation.”**



- The Department of Nursing Oncology Services will present two posters at the 2025 Annual Oncology Nursing Society conference in Denver, Colorado:
  - **“Bridging the Gap in Clinical Trials: “From Grafting Phase to Granulation Phase”**. The abstract will also be published in an online issue of the Oncology Nursing Forum. Session date/time: Saturday, April 12, 2025, 7:00 AM-8:00 AM. Jindu Wilson RN MSN DNP, Stephanie Kidwell RN MSN, Julia Mischo RN MSN MBA, Anielka Perez RN MSN, Michelle Beale RN MSN, Adam Sollazzo RN, Marie Joseph-Flores RN MS
  - **“Cancer Clinical Trials Phlebotomy Process Improvement”**. The abstract will also be published in an online issue of the Oncology Nursing Forum. Session date/time: Friday, April 11, 2025, 7:00 AM-8:00 AM
- An Interdisciplinary group from Patient Advocacy, Regulatory Affairs and Medicine Quality submitted an abstract accepted for presentation at the “Connected Healthcare Summit” taking place on March 18 – March 20, 2025, in San Diego, CA. The title of the presentation is **“Utilizing Peer Review and Feedback to Manage Grievances”**. The abstract presents our process for clinical reviews related to response to grievances in a manner that protects the confidentiality of materials and protects the information as privileged quality material.
- Meghan Doelger RN DNP has been awarded an American Association of Critical Care Nurses (AACN) – Sigma Theta Tau Grant for her proposal **“Bispectrality Index Versus Clinical Sedation Scales: Impact on Nurse Workload and Interrater Reliability”**.
- Two SBUH Nursing Units have received the American Nurses Association (AACN) Beacon Award. This award was created in 2003 to facilitate and recognize unit-based improvements in clinical care. 17 South MICU received the Silver Beacon Award for Excellence, and 9 South RCU received the Gold, the highest level, Award.

#### **Patient Experience:**

- Roseanna Ryan was invited to speak at the RLDatix Connected Healthcare Summit – “Utilizing Peer Review and Feedback to Manage Grievances” and highlight the grievance and review process at SBM. SBUH’s grievance process is considered a national best practice.
- The Cancer Center Spanish Interpreter through Valerie Fund was filled and our new interpreter will be starting in March.
- This month Chaplaincy held six Code Lavenders for 71 staff members including Pediatrics, Post Anesthesia Care Unit and Anesthesiology.
- The I-Round rounding platform has been successfully implemented in Nursing, Patient Advocacy, and Language Services. Quality and Regulatory surveys are in progress. Using I-Round, Nurse Leader Rounds have increased from 25% to 70% based on audit data.
- New Diabetes Patient Education booklets in English and Spanish were created and launched to improve health literacy and understanding for patients with diabetes. These will be provided both in the hospital and throughout the community.



- Nicole Rossol and Dr. Lindsey Schacter presented at The Press Ganey Human Experience National Conference on “Leading Physician and Nursing Teams to Success: Using Compassionate Connected Care to improve Communication” in Orlando Florida.
- The Volunteer Department has increased to 252 active volunteers this month.

**Facilities:**

- SBUH continues to expand its Long Island footprint with plans to build a new ambulatory surgery center in Commack. The 19,500-square-foot facility will place four new operating rooms and about \$8 million worth of new equipment a half-hour drive from the main hospital. In total, the new center will cost close to \$16 million. The plan is part of a steady stream of construction projects at SBUH, including a \$67 million expansion of the main hospital’s pediatric and psychiatric emergency departments, which is currently in the works. The new surgery center will add to the site in Commack, a 120,000-square-foot facility that houses SBM’s advanced specialty care practice. The practice has expanded its surgical services since it opened in 2017, now offering bariatric, colorectal, gastrointestinal, head and neck, plastic and vascular surgeries. The new addition will add a recovery area for 16 patients with two private rooms and 14 bays. The four new operating rooms will be added over two phases.

The building’s landlord will cover the cost of construction with the hospital repaying it over a 20-year capital lease. The equipment will be covered by the State University Construction Fund, a public benefit corporation established to finance SUNY capital needs.

The blueprint adds to tens of millions of dollars of development currently underway or in the planning process at SBM sites. In August, the health system filed paperwork to drastically expand its pediatric emergency department to accommodate an increased demand that has led to overcrowding and higher patient wait times.