



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** University Senate

**FROM:** Maurie McInnis, President

**DATE:** May 2, 2022

**SUBJECT:** President's Report

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### **CARL LEJUEZ NAMED EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT AND PROVOST**

I am pleased to announce that Dr. Carl Lejuez (pronounced lehzh-way) will become Stony Brook University's next executive vice president and provost, effective July 1, 2022. He rose to the top of a very competitive pool of candidates.

Dr. Lejuez is currently the provost and executive vice president at the University of Connecticut, and before that was interim provost and executive vice chancellor at the University of Kansas. He has run the academic side of two large and complex public flagship universities and has the necessary background, acumen, and collaborative approach to help elevate and guide our academic mission.

In Carl, we have a leader who comes to the table with a strong track record of experience in public higher education. In his current role, he oversees all aspects of the academic mission with a focus on supporting holistic student success, faculty research, scholarship, and creative endeavors, as well as community impact and engagement. He has also served as a key partner with the chief diversity officer in supporting an inclusive academic community and with the director of human resources in staff development. Before serving in his provost roles, he was dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at Kansas and associate dean for research at the University of Maryland's College of Behavioral Sciences.

Academically, his roots are in clinical psychology, and he is a faculty member in the Department of Psychological Services at UConn. His areas of interest and research include mental health interventions for marginalized and underserved populations, mood disorders, and addictions. At Maryland, he founded and served as director of the Center for Addictions, Personality and Emotions Research at the College Park campus. He was an assistant research professor at Brown University, and currently is an adjunct faculty member at the Yale Child Study Center in New Haven, Conn. He received his M.A. and Ph.D., both in clinical psychology, from West Virginia University; and earned his B.A. in psychology from Emory University.

Carl is a New Jersey native and a first-generation college student – something he takes pride in that immediately connects him to many of our students. I am confident Carl will help Stony Brook University meet its ambitious goals around research and academic excellence, and will be a stalwart supporter of our students, staff, and faculty. He will help us find additional ways to strategically elevate our research, scholarship, and art making while raising the bar even higher for amplifying our efforts to improve student success.

## **UNIVERSITY NEWS AND ACCOLADES**

### **TEN FACULTY NAMED SUNY DISTINGUISHED PROFESSORS FOR 2021-2022**

Ten Stony Brook University faculty members were appointed to the rank of Distinguished Professor – a prestigious honor bestowed upon professionals of the highest caliber – by the State University of New York (SUNY) Board of Trustees for 2021-2022.

The honored faculty members include Distinguished Teaching Professor **Jadranka Skorin-Kapov** (management, affiliated with philosophy, mathematics and statistics) and Distinguished Professors **Carol Carter** (microbiology and immunology), **Leonie Huddy** (political science), **Richard Larson** (linguistics), **Robert Shrock** (physics), **Katy Siegel** (art), **Vincent Yang** (physiology & biophysics), **Abhay Deshpande** (physics), **Mary Jo Bona** (women’s, gender and sexuality studies) and **Christopher Bishop** (mathematics).

### **SERGE LURYI AND CRAIG LEHMANN ELECTED 2021 FELLOWS OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF INVENTORS**

**Serge Luryi**, distinguished professor in Stony Brook University’s Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, and **Craig Lehmann**, former dean of the School of Health Technology and Management, have been elected Fellows by the National Academy of Inventors (NAI) – the highest professional distinction accorded solely to academic inventors. The NAI Fellows Program highlights academic inventors who have demonstrated a spirit of innovation in creating or facilitating outstanding inventions that have made a tangible impact on quality of life, economic development and the welfare of society. The list of 2021 NAI Fellows includes 164 prolific innovators from 116 research universities, and governmental and non-profit institutes worldwide. They collectively hold 4,800 issued U.S. patents. Professors Luryi and Lehmann will officially be inducted Fellows at the NAI’s annual meeting on June 15, 2022, in Phoenix, Arizona.

### **STONY BROOK STUDENT AFFAIRS RECOGNIZED AS MOST PROMISING PLACES TO WORK**

Stony Brook University’s Student Affairs has been honorably mentioned as one of 2022’s Most Promising Places to Work in Student Affairs according to *Diverse: Issues in Higher Education*, a publication focusing on news and issues of diversity, equity and inclusion in American higher education. The “Most Promising Places to Work in Student Affairs” selection was based on workplace diversity, staffing practices and work environment, as well as family friendliness, salary/benefits and professional development opportunities.

### **DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR NANCY TOMES SELECTED FOR NATIONAL HUMANITIES CENTER FELLOWSHIP**

Nancy Tomes, distinguished professor in the Department of History in the College of Arts and Sciences, has been named one of 33 Fellows for 2022-23 by the National Humanities Center. This is Professor Tomes’ second fellowship at the Center; she was previously a Fellow in 1999-2000. She joins the Center’s intellectual community as she pursues work on her project, “A History of the

Modern Infodemic.” Each Fellow will work on an individual research project and will have the opportunity to share ideas in seminars, lectures and conferences at the Center. This is the 45th class of resident scholars to be admitted since the Center opened in 1978.

#### **FIVE STONY BROOK PROGRAMS RANK AMONG THE TOP WORLDWIDE**

The QS World University Rankings, a leading organization for international rankings, rated the world’s top universities by subject area, and placed Stony Brook University’s Physics and Astronomy program in the top 100, coming in at #85, up from #89 in 2021. Four other subjects placed in the top 200 — Mathematics (#123), Geology (#150-200), Geophysics (#151-200) and in the broad subject area of Natural Sciences (#165).

#### **ADVANCEMENT UPDATE**

Since the start of the 2022 fiscal year, \$71.3 million has been generously pledged or contributed by more than 8,300 donors. Their investments in our students, research, healthcare and campus programs provide critical support, helping to elevate the University.

Generous contributions since the last update include:

- \$27,500,000 pledge to benefit the Simons Center for Geometry and Physics
- \$2,700,000 realized bequest establishing the Frank M. Struhar Endowed Fellowship
- \$2,400,000 in gifts and pledges for scholarships through the Stars of Stony Gala 2022
- \$1,500,000 pledge to establish an endowed chair in graduate medical education
- \$1,000,000 pledge for the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences Building Fund
- \$975,000 gift to establish the Laufer Center Endowed Excellence Fund
- \$500,000 pledge for the Simons Foundation International, Ltd. Graduate Math Fellowship
- \$300,000 in pledges and gifts for the Pediatric Emergency Department Expansion Fund
- \$278,800 pledge toward establishing the Dr. John J. Ricotta Endowed Professorship in Vascular Surgery
- \$215,000 pledge for the Della Pietra Visiting Professor in Music
- \$180,400 gift for the Laboratory for Chemical Biology
- \$150,000 pledge toward establishing a scholarship for students graduating from Levittown High School students
- \$115,000 for the Gardener Foundation Student Research Fellowship Fund
- \$100,000 pledge to benefit Child Life Services and the Stony Brook Children's Hospital Family Support Program

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

##### **MAY COMMENCEMENT CEREMONIES**

The 2022 Doctoral Graduation and Hooding Ceremony will be held Wednesday, May 18, 4:30PM in the Island Federal Credit Union Arena.

Main Commencement will be held Friday, May 20, 11:00AM in the Kenneth P. LaValle stadium.

## RECENT EVENTS

The 23rd Stars of Stony Brook Gala was held on April 13, raising \$2.4 million for student scholarships. Over 540 guests gathered at Cipriani 42nd Street in New York City to honor Prince Albert II of Monaco and Stony Brook distinguished alumnus John L. Hennessy, MS '75, PhD '77. Hosted annually by the Stony Brook Foundation Board of Trustees, this year's celebration recognized His Serene Highness for his dedication to ocean conservation and sustainability, while Dr. Hennessy, president emeritus of Stanford University and chairman of Alphabet, Inc., was celebrated for his transformative work in computer science and electrical engineering.

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

Football graduate Mitchell Wright was selected to the prestigious National Football Foundation Hampshire Honor Society. Members of the NFF Hampshire Honor Society must have completed their final year of playing eligibility in Fall 2021, attained a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.2, met all NCAA-mandated progress towards degree requirements and been a starter or significant contributor throughout the 2021 season.

No. 5 Women's Lacrosse continues to dominate America East competition, outscoring conference foes 68-14 through the first four league contests this season. Under head coach Joe Spallina, the team has not lost a conference game since April 26, 2014.

Men's Lacrosse has won three straight conference games, including a 7-3 win at Binghamton. The three goals allowed by the Seawolves were the fewest in a game since 2010.

Baseball alum Travis Jankowski, who led Stony Brook to the 2012 College World Series, has gotten off to a hot start with the New York Mets this season. Jankowski was batting .375 through the team's first 12 games.

Graduate student softball student-athlete Dawn Bodrug ranks seventh nationally in strikeouts per game and has thrown two no-hitters this season. The team has a 22-12 record and has won eight of its last 11 games.

Tennis will compete in the Missouri Valley Conference championships the weekend of April 22-24. This will be the final MVC appearance for Stony Brook Tennis as all teams are moving into the CAA on July 1.

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<sup>1</sup> As of April 20, 2022