



TO: University Senate
FROM: William Wertheim, MD, MBA
Executive Vice President for Stony Brook Medicine
DATE: August 25, 2025
SUBJECT: SBM EVP Report

ACADEMIC UPDATES

Microbiology & Immunology Professors Receive Combined \$7 Million in NIAID Awards

Two faculty members from the Renaissance School of Medicine's Department of Microbiology & Immunology have been awarded major research grants from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), totaling a combined \$7 million. Maurizio Del Poeta, Distinguished Professor, was awarded \$3.9 million in funding for his study, "Developing New Antifungals Against Sterolglycosidases." The collaborative project, which started in June and continues through May 2030, uses a combination of structural, chemical and computational biology to target lipid biosynthetic pathways that are required for fungal pathogens to cause disease, with the goal of advancing new antifungal therapeutics. Nicholas Carpino, Associate Professor, will receive more than \$3.1 million over four years for his project, "Optimizing anti-microbial immunity by targeting Sts-1." The project will develop a novel class of host-directed therapeutic agents, with the goal of manipulating host immune responses — rather than targeting the pathogen — to allow a variety of infections to be cleared.

Renaissance School of Medicine Welcomes New Center Director and Department Chairs

The RSOM and the Stony Brook community welcomed Raymond C. Bergan as the new Director of the Stony Brook Cancer Center, effective August 1. Dr. Bergan arrives from the University of Nebraska Medical Center's Eppley Institute, where he served as the Bill Bures and Jerry Pabst Chair in Cancer Research and Deputy Director of the Fred & Pamela Buffett Cancer Center. Previously at Oregon Health & Science University as Chief of the Division of Hematology & Medical Oncology, DeArmond Chair of Cancer Research, Co-Leader of the Translational Oncology Program and Associate Director of the Knight Cancer Institute, he was a vital contributor to its elevation to National Cancer Institute-designated Comprehensive Cancer Center. His research focuses on cancer metastasis, precision-act-upon drug development, lab-on-chip systems and human cell movement assays. He has authored over 130 peer-reviewed publications and secured more than \$54 million in research funding. The RSOM congratulates Dr. Bergan on his new appointment and thanks his predecessor, Yusuf A. Hannun, for more than a decade of steadfast leadership at the Center.

Diego Restrepo, an internationally recognized biophysicist and systems neuroscientist, will join the RSOM's Department of Physiology and Biophysics as its new Chair, effective November 1. Dr. Restrepo comes from the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, where he has served in numerous leadership roles and advanced groundbreaking research on how brain circuits mediate decision-making and associative learning. With more than 175 publications, nearly \$40 million in research funding, and honors including the Max Mozell Award for Outstanding Achievement in the Chemical Senses, he brings a distinguished record of scholarship, collaboration and mentorship. His leadership will be instrumental in advancing the department's impact in research, education and training.

Earlier this summer, the RSOM welcomed Rabih Chaer as the new Chief of the Department of Surgery's Vascular and Endovascular Surgery Division and Professor of Surgery. An internationally respected lecturer, multi-board-certified doctor and Castle Connolly Top 10 Doctor for the past decade, Dr. Chaer joined Stony Brook after serving as Chief, Division of Vascular Surgery and Co-Director, UPMC Heart and Vascular Institute at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center.

Robert Bronstein Earns American Society of Nephrology KidneyCure Grant

Robert Bronstein, from the Department of Medicine's Division of Nephrology and Hypertension, was among 23 KidneyCure grant recipients announced in July by the American Society of Nephrology (ASN). KidneyCure is ASN's research funding arm, and Dr. Bronstein was honored with the 2025 Carl W. Gottschalk Research Scholar Grant, a prestigious award for early-career nephrology investigators. His project, "Fosl2 Control of Epigenomic and Splicing Dynamics in Crescentic Glomerulopathies," seeks to unravel the molecular and epigenomic mechanisms driving crescentic glomerular diseases of the kidney, potentially revealing new therapeutic targets. Supported by ASN's Transition to Independence grant, Dr. Bronstein aims to explore how the AP-1 transcription factor regulates parietal epithelial cell dynamics in human pathologies such as focal segmental glomerulosclerosis.

Tracy Cavanaugh Named Jonas-Flynn Oncology Nurse DNP Scholar

School of Nursing Professor Tracy Cavanaugh has been selected as a 2025-2027 Jonas-Flynn Oncology Nurse DNP Scholar. This prestigious scholarship, a collaboration between the Flynn Foundation and Jonas Nursing, provides a \$15,000 annual award for two years. The award is a testament to her dedication as a distinguished practitioner and respected role model in the field of Oncology Nursing.

Amy Hammock Receives SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching

Amy Hammock, Associate Professor and Core Faculty Member in the Program in Public Health, has been awarded the 2024–2025 SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching.



Professor Hammock will be formally honored at a campus ceremony in November. This award highlights her impactful teaching, mentorship, and interdisciplinary contributions to public health and social work education.

Tracy Trimboli Receives Excellence in Assessment Award

SON's Prof. Tracy Trimboli has been honored with this year's Excellence in Assessment Award at the Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching's (CELT) Celebration of Teaching. This recognition highlights Tracy's outstanding efforts and dedicated service to Stony Brook.

Robert Nocito Earns CELT Celebration of Teaching Award

Stony Brook's Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching (CELT) recognized its 2025 Celebration of Teaching Award recipients during Faculty Orientation earlier this month. Among the 10 honorees was Robert Nocito, Clinical Assistant Professor and Assistant Program Director in the RSOM's Department of Emergency Medicine, who received the CELT Award for Excellence in Experiential Education. The award, which includes \$1,000 in RF IDC funds, recognizes educators who demonstrate outstanding implementation of experiential learning implementation, following the Society for Experiential Education (SEE) standards. Dr. Nocito, in collaboration with the academic campus, oversees the Pathways to Healthcare program, an initiative that connects aspiring healthcare professionals with firsthand, real-world experiences.

School of Social Welfare Hosts Social Work and Disability Conference

More than 70 individuals attended SSW's virtual Social Work and Disability Conference on June 11. The conference showcased a New York Community Trust-funded program that provides scholarships to direct support professionals (DSPs), its associated membership, and leadership activities. Attendees heard from program graduates, their mentors, and prominent national presenters about components of the program. The New York Community Trust-funded grant provides \$7,000 per year in scholarship support for BSW and MSW students seeking to further their professional training as DSPs. The grant covers admissions application fees, National Association of Social Work (NASW) student membership, graduation regalia fees, and an annual stipend for childcare, books, and parking.

SBU Study: Long-Term PTSD Symptoms in WTC Responders Bear Watching ([SB News](#))

In a landmark 20-year study published this summer in *Nature Mental Health*, SBM researchers tracked PTSD symptom patterns in nearly 13,000 World Trade Center responders through more than 81,000 clinical observations. Led by Frank Mann, PhD, Senior Research Scientist in the Program of Public Health and in the Department of Medicine at the Renaissance School of Medicine, the researchers discovered that while most responders experienced symptom improvement—with a median recovery time of about 8 to 10 years—PTSD symptoms often peaked more than a decade after 9/11 and persisted in roughly 10 percent of cases even two



decades later. The findings highlight the enduring and variable nature of trauma, the heightened risk among non-professional responders, and the need for long-term monitoring and tailored care strategies.

Ann D. Cuccia Honored with 2025 Dr. Charles H. Hudson Award for Cardiopulmonary Public Health

Ann D. Cuccia, Director of Clinical Education and Clinical Professor in the Department of Respiratory Care, has been honored with the 2025 Dr. Charles H. Hudson Award for Cardiopulmonary Public Health, presented by the American Respiratory Care Foundation (ARCF). This prestigious award recognizes Ann's significant contributions to raising public awareness of cardiopulmonary health and wellness. Ann will be formally recognized this December at a special ceremony during the American Association for Respiratory Care (AARC) International Congress in Phoenix, Arizona.

William Wertheim and Peter Igarashi Featured in Long Island Business News

William Wertheim, Executive Vice President of SBM, and Peter Igarashi, Dean of the Renaissance School of Medicine, were featured in the [July 25 issue of Long Island Business News](#) and recognized among the Long Island Business News Influencers: Healthcare & Healthcare Law 2025. This recognition honors their visionary leadership in one of Long Island's most dynamic healthcare ecosystems. Identified among the region's top healthcare leaders addressing some of modern medicine's most pressing challenges — including rising costs, cyber threats and staffing shortages — their selection underscores SBM and the RSOM's pivotal role in shaping the future of compassionate care delivery, innovation and education.

Joe Verghese Featured in The New York Times

Dr. Joe Verghese, Chair of the RSOM's Department of Neurology, was featured in *The New York Times* for a July 31 story examining the growing use of AI-powered companions for people with mild cognitive impairment or dementia. Speaking to the Times, Dr. Verghese noted that while these tools may not directly improve cognition, they can enhance quality of life and mood—important outcomes in dementia care. The article focused on “Sunny,” a conversational AI developed by the start-up NewDays, and discussed its potential to lift patients' spirits, reduce loneliness and support caregivers, while also raising concerns about privacy, overreliance on technology, and the absence of clinical evidence that AI companions match the benefits of human-led interventions.

School of Social Welfare Hosts Long Island School Social Workers' Conference

The SSW welcomed more than 120 school social workers from public and private schools across Nassau and Suffolk counties for the second annual Long Island School Social Workers' Conference on June 2. This year's theme, School Social Work: Embodiment and Emotional



Regulation Strategies for Students, focused on somatic practices and emotional wellness tools designed to support students in school settings. The conference created a dynamic space for school social workers to connect, collaborate, and share practical strategies that support their day-to-day work. Notably, the event welcomed many SSW alumni, whose presence underscored the strong professional network that the program has cultivated.

Finding Their Voice: Camp Empowers Young People Who Stutter ([SB News](#))

A group of children and teens who stutter spent a week at Stony Brook Southampton embracing their voices, building confidence, and making sure they were heard. Camp Dream. Speak. Live. welcomed children ages 5 to 16 for a free, confidence-building experience centered on communication, connection, and self-expression. Hosted July 28 through August 1 by Stony Brook University's Department of Speech-Language Pathology in the School of Health Professions at Stony Brook Southampton, in partnership with The Arthur M. Blank Center for Stuttering Education and Research, the camp made its New York State debut.

MSW Students Explore Environmental Justice in Puerto Rico

Anna Hayward, Associate Professor, and seven MSW students traveled to Puerto Rico in July for the SSW's inaugural summer study abroad course, Environmental Justice and Community Resilience. The group started in the capital city of San Juan and then spent eight days traveling through Ponce, Adjuntas, Yauco, Cabo Rojo, Rincón, Toa Baja, and back to San Juan. Class hours were spent visiting community groups working towards food sovereignty, energy independence, resistance to unsustainable development, natural disaster preparation and response, and art and music as resistance to colonialism and expression of Puerto Rican Culture. Students also participated in service activities including trail clean up in the El Yunque national forest and hurricane preparation in a community center.

Simons STEM Scholars Participate in Summer Bridge Program

A third cohort of Simons STEM Scholars — 42 high-achieving students from underrepresented backgrounds in science, technology, engineering and medicine — spent July 24 exploring innovative research and career pathways across Stony Brook University. As part of a six-week Summer Bridge Program, the scholars split into two tracks — one visiting the Center of Excellence in Wireless and Information Technology (CEWIT) to learn about renewable energy, virtual reality and drone applications in infrastructure, and the other engaging in biomedical research and healthcare experiences at the Renaissance School of Medicine and the Life Sciences Building. At RSOM, the group participated in an MD/PhD student panel, toured research labs and visited the Simulation Lab, gaining insight into medical training technologies and current investigations in microbiology and immunology. Faculty, trainees and industry professionals provided hands-on demonstrations and mentorship, giving scholars a first-hand



view of how academic research translates into real-world solutions and inspiring ideas for their own academic and career journeys.

CLINICAL AND RESEARCH UPDATES

Stony Brook Medicine welcomes Stony Brook University President Andrea Goldsmith

- Stony Brook Medicine (SBM) is proud to welcome Stony Brook University President Andrea Goldsmith. President Goldsmith has already visited East Campus for a meeting with SBM leadership and received a clinical overview and tour of Stony Brook University Hospital (SBUH).

On August 8th, Dr. Goldsmith received a research overview prepared by RSOM Dean Peter Igarashi, MD, and Sue Hedayati, MD, Vice Dean for Research and also met researchers, David Thanassi, PhD, Chair, Department of Microbiology, Raymond Bergan, MD, Director, Stony Brook Cancer Center (see below for update on Dr. Bergman's new role) Joe Verghese, MD, Chair Department of Neurology, Annissa Abi-Dargham, MD, Chair, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Health, and Christine DeLorenzo, PhD, Director, Center for Understanding Biology using Image Technology and Co-chair, Center for Healthy Aging.

A tour of research facilities was provided by Glen Itzkowitz, Associate Dean for Research Facilities & Operations, Mark Slifstein, PhD, Director of PET Research, and Christopher Clarke, PhD, Associate Professor of Research.

AWARDS, ACCOLADES & NEWS:

- SBUH has been named one of the Top 25 Hospitals in the country for its work pursuing environmental excellence. Based on a rigorous scoring system, this award honors success and performance in a range of sustainability programs including leadership, waste, chemicals, greening the operating room, food, sustainable procurement, energy, water, climate, transportation, and green building. As Practice Greenhealth's highest honor for the Partner for Change application, this award recognizes the best of the best in health care environmental sustainability.

Additionally, SBUH's multi-disciplinary efforts on reducing its environmental footprint in various impact areas have resulted in earning the recognition of Circles of Excellence in Chemicals, Sustainable Procurement, Energy, and Green Building. The Circles of Excellence Awards honor the 10 highest-performing hospitals in each area of sustainability impact.



Practice Greenhealth is the leading sustainable health care organization, delivering environmental solutions to more than 1,700 hospitals and health systems in the United States and Canada.

- Dr. Jason Kim and Dr. Steven Weissbart of the Women's Pelvic Health and Continence Center at SBUH successfully performed one of the nation's first—and the East Coast's very first—Glean™ Urodynamics procedures using Bright Uro's ambulatory urodynamic system.

This innovative diagnostic technology represents a significant advancement in the evaluation of bladder function for the estimated 17 million people who experience daily bladder control problems in the United States. Unlike traditional urodynamic studies that require catheterization and observation in a clinical setting, Glean™ enables real-time data collection in an ambulatory, real-world environment—offering a more natural experience for patients while improving diagnostic accuracy, safety and overall comfort. Patients diagnosed with lower urinary tract dysfunction (LUTD) and looking to tract symptoms that are difficult to capture during traditional in-office urodynamic testing can benefit from the systems wireless, catheter-free, monitoring of bladder pressure that is safe.

Dr. Jason Kim, Associate Professor of Urology and Director of the Women's Pelvic Health and Continence Center at SBUH, served as the national principal investigator for the FDA approved trial of the Glean™ system. The results of this pivotal trial were recently published in the Journal of Endourology.

As the second site in the country—and the first on the East Coast—to implement this state-of-the-art technology, SBUH continues to lead in advancing care for patients with pelvic floor disorders and lower urinary tract symptoms.

- For the estimated 1.6 million Americans diagnosed with symptomatic tricuspid valve regurgitation each year, a significant advancement in treatment is now available on Long Island. With the launch of the new Transcatheter Tricuspid Valve Replacement (TTVR) Program at the Stony Brook Heart Institute (SBHI), patients at SBM have access to groundbreaking, minimally invasive therapies.

The heart has four valves — aortic, mitral, pulmonary and tricuspid - that control the direction of blood flow. In tricuspid regurgitation (TR), the tricuspid valve's flaps do not close tightly, allowing blood to leak backward in the heart. Mild cases may cause no symptoms, but others suffer from fatigue, pulsing neck veins, fluid buildup in the



abdomen and legs, and irregular, sometimes dangerous, heartbeats. If left untreated, individuals with severe TR can experience heart failure, blood clots, stroke and other organ damage.

In the hands of Stony Brook's tricuspid valve specialists, the FDA-approved TriClip™ device offers a revolutionary treatment option. Performed under general anesthesia and guided by advanced imaging, the procedure involves placing a catheter through a vein to the heart, where the TriClip™ is precisely placed to bring valve flaps together, reducing backward blood flow. Because the procedure is minimally invasive and avoids open-heart surgery, most patients are up and walking within hours, discharged in one to two days, and back to their regular lives in about a week. Clinical trials published in The New England Journal of Medicine demonstrated that TriClip™ placement resulted in 87% of patients experiencing a significant reduction in tricuspid regurgitation, compared to less than 5% with medication use alone.

- The Division of Nursing was well represented at the 2025 Nursing Research Day, sponsored by the Stony Brook School of Nursing and SBUH Division of Nursing. Two “Rapid Fire” presentations were shared at the podium by SBUH nursing staff: “TALES Through Handoff Report” was presented by Mara Smakal BSN RN describing the project she initiated to structure bedside nursing report; and “Nurses’ Perceived Confidence in Managing Patient Deterioration: A Tailored Rapid Response Educational Program” presented by Tami Robitsek, ANP-BC, Director of Rapid Response, describing how to support frontline staff in responding to urgent situations at the bedside through structured education.

Also, at the 2025 Nursing Research Day, twenty posters were presented by SBUH nurses at the DNP, PhD, graduate and undergraduate level.

- The American Nurses Association of New York (ANA-NY) accepted an abstract submitted by SBUH Nurses for a project in collaboration with physician partners titled “Optimizing IV Replacement: Clinically Indicated Change Approach.” This project served as a catalyst for hospital policy changes and will be presented at the 13th Annual ANA-NY Conference: “Empowerment: Be Empowered Through Change”, taking place October 9-11, 2025. The project will be presented at both the “Poster Blitz” and the Poster Session.

PERSONNEL UPDATES:

- Raymond C. Bergan, MD, was appointed Stony Brook Cancer Center Director. (See background in academic report above.)



- Ramya Subramaniam recently joined the Human Resources Department as the new Director of Human Resources Information Systems (HRIS). Ramya brings over 19 years of experience building and scaling IT organizations in high-growth environments. She has a proven track record of developing and executing strategic roadmaps, managing complex projects, and implementing and enhancing HRIS systems. Most recently, Ramya served as Senior Manager of Implementations at ADP. Previously, Ramya held the position of People Systems Manager at PSEG and Senior HCM Consultant at Forest Laboratories. Ramya holds a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from the University of Madras and has extensive experience with many HRIS platforms and technologies.
- Brigitte Borhi-Zahn was named Director of Health System IT Integration. She will oversee strategic planning for integrating health system applications, architecture, and connectivity. Brigitte will lead the Integration Team, which includes experts in application architecture, interface engine development, business analysis, and IT integration strategies. The goal is to create a seamless patient experience by aligning core applications and data across the health system.

Brigitte commenced her career at SBM in 1999 as a Lead Senior Programmer Analyst, where she worked on various systems, including Cerner (Siemens) INVISION and multiple Cerner Millennium Applications. Prior to joining Stony Brook, she held roles as a Senior System Analyst for Health Information Systems at Northwell Health System, and as a System and Interface Analyst and Lab Information System Manager at Brookhaven Memorial Hospital Medical Center.

Since 2002, Brigitte has held the position of Program Manager in the SBMIT Program Management Office, where she has successfully executed numerous strategic programs and projects. Among her significant achievements are major integration endeavors such as the MART/Pavilion opening, Phillips Family Cancer Center, Cardiac Cath Lab expansion, and the SBSH Migration to Millennium. These projects demanded thorough strategic planning and coordination across various disciplines, significantly enhancing our system integration efforts.

Brigitte holds a Master's Degree in Healthcare Administration and is also a Certified Professional in Project Management.

OPERATIONAL UPDATES:

Heart Institute:

- The Heart Institute Non-Invasive Cardiology program received re-accreditation of the echocardiography laboratories in all procedures performed at SBUH including



transthoracic, transesophageal and stress echocardiography. The SBUH echocardiography service is the only service in Suffolk County that holds this triple accreditation.

- On June 1, the Cardiothoracic Surgery clinic and pre-surgical testing (PST) services, previously located on level 5 (Heart Institute) of the hospital, moved to the Advanced Specialty Care at Stony Brook (ASCB). The service will utilize three exam rooms located in Article 16 space and two exam rooms in Article 28 space for PST testing. Services will include pre/post operative visits, consults and PST for cardiac surgery and structural heart patients.

Women's and Children's:

- Stony Brook's Maternal/Child Department has received the 2025 International Board of Lactation Consultant Examiners and The International Lactation Association (IBCLC) Award for excellence demonstrated in staffing International Board-Certified Lactation Consultants as part of the maternal-child health care team, and for conducting activities that demonstrate promotion, protection and support of breast feeding. This is awarded for two years and is valid through April 30, 2027.
- On Wednesday, May 21, the Department of OBGYN hosted a baby shower for underserved patients at the Advanced Specialty Care at Lake Grove. During this special event, there were brief information sessions about common pregnancy and postpartum concerns, a CPR demonstration, information about doulas, lactation consulting, representation from WIC (Women, Infants, and Children Nutrition Program).
- Stony Brook Children's welcomed our first pediatric stereotactic EEG patient in the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit. This minimally invasive procedure is used to pinpoint the origin of epileptic seizures in patients with drug-resistant epilepsy. Successful EEG monitoring was performed over the weeks of inpatient stay but with successful outcome for the patient. As Stony Brook Children's performs more of these procedures in the future it will allow for continued growth of our epilepsy program.
- SBUH was awarded the 2025 International Board-Certified Lactation Consultants (IBCLC) Care Award. The award is given to hospitals that demonstrate excellence in staffing board-certified lactation consultants as part of our maternal-child health care team, and for activities that demonstrate the promotion, protection and support of breastfeeding.

Ancillary/Support Services:

- The Recycling Department dedicated resources to fully support the SBUH Recyclemania event. Materials were collected from 115 units during the event and over 34,000



pounds of recyclables were removed that may have otherwise been discarded into our solid waste stream.

- The Laboratory Department experienced a successful inspection of the Histocompatibility and Immunogenetics Laboratory by the American Society for Histocompatibility and Immunogenetics (ASHI) with only two minor deficiencies for which responses have been submitted in mid-May. ASHI re-accreditation of the laboratory is in process.
- New cards for the VITEK 2 system (AST N808 and AST XN 32) are the latest sensitivity cards that Microbiology Laboratory is using to provide improved performance, including rapid results, reduced handling time, and enhanced workflow efficiency in clinical microbiology laboratories. It also has expanded databases for susceptibility, detecting resistance mechanisms and offering extended minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) ranges, aiding in targeted therapy. The Advanced Expert System (AES) analyzes MIC patterns and detects resistance phenotypes, aiding in the accurate interpretation of results.
- The Grundium digital pathology system was recently validated. The process was implemented to allow for remote coverage of Stony Brook Southampton ROSE (Rapid OnSite Evaluation) procedures and frozen section cases by SBUH Pathologists. In addition, Histology Supervisors are currently streamlining the clinical report discordance review process for frozen sections, amended cases, and consultation reports, by working directly with the residents and attending pathologists. This information is reported to the Medical Quality Assurance Committee to review physician attributable events each quarter.
- Construction will start on June 16th for the replacement of the GE CT in the Emergency Room with the new Siemens Exceed. The system will complement the recently installed CT in the ER. This latest technology platform delivers elite imaging performance, seamlessly integrating high resolution, exceptional power, and rapid scan speed. It achieves precise results while maintaining low-dose efficiency. It produces images 40% faster than the previous CT and decreases radiation dose.
- The Ambulatory Care Pavilion houses the new SPECT/CT. This new technology will allow outpatients to be scanned outside hospital space in an outpatient imaging center setting. The new unit combines superior image quality, rapid imaging reconstruction and decreased radiation dose.
- The Pharmacy's two pediatric-certified pharmacists took part in the lecture series for the pediatric residents, focusing on the topic of Medications in Lactation. In addition,



the pharmacy has completed all pre-bookings for both the influenza and the RSV vaccines for the upcoming 2025-26 season, helping to guarantee adequate stock throughout the season.

- The Epilepsy Monitoring Unit (EMU) Hillrom paging system and ceiling alarms were programmed for use in the PICU Unit 6 W1 for intracranial pediatric patients. Education was initiated with PICU staff, leadership and educators, on how to utilize the paging and overhead alarms to communicate from EEG monitoring unit to the PICU. Inservice for pediatric residents, staff will continue for the next month to educate and inform all staff regarding seizure episodes.

Human Resources

- On May 19th, the Leadership Institute was held on West Campus for all department heads across all three Hospitals. The focus was on Finances. Steven Weisman, Associate Vice President, represented the Supply Chain division and presented on topics including product standardization, tariffs, reviewing reports for office supplies and the Materials Management Storeroom issued supplies, pricing benchmarking analytics, utilization, medical supply reprocessing as well as a Food Service waste reduction program. Additionally, tips were offered on dealing with Sales Reps.

National Hospital Week

- HR coordinated several recognition events to honor and celebrate our almost 10,000 employees across our three hospitals during National Hospital Week which ran from May 11- May 17. Some of the events included Gratitude Rounds by Leaders; Wellness and Resilience Events; Distribution of Stony Brook branded T-Shirts to all employees, and Family Movie Night

Employee Engagement Survey Planning

- A communication plan was developed to highlight key improvements made in response to employee feedback from the 2023 survey. This plan supports transparency and continued engagement as we prepare for the upcoming September 2025 survey.

Each month, we focus on a specific theme that reflects employee priorities and our commitment to continuous improvement:

April – Culture of Respect

May – Feeling Valued and Appreciated

June – Culture of Safety

July – Staffing

August – Compensation



A multi-pronged approach to spotlight the meaningful work being done, including daily huddles, leader rounds, SCALA presentations, town hall meetings, HealthBeat, and other communication channels is leveraged. The goal is to ensure employees feel heard and recognize their feedback is driving positive change.

Patient Experience:

- The Patient Experience team collaborated with Press Ganey and our SBM Information Technology Department to expand the current survey tools to include ten additional languages. The surveys will expand the delivery of surveys to patients in their preferred language and improve response rates.
- The Patient Experience team conducted Compassionate Connected Care training for The East Hampton Emergency Department. Additional training courses and on-site coaching sessions are scheduled for Nursing, Patient Access, Security, Greeter and Radiology staff.
- Dr. Jonathan Buscaglia and Nicole Rossol conducted Patient Experience communication education for Physician Grand Rounds at Stony Brook Eastern Long Island Hospital.
- Chaplaincy, Human Resources, Patient Experience and Nursing implemented a new process for weekly Night Shift Wellness Rounds. The team will alternate coverage and provide emotional support and various resources to help improve engagement and expand wellness services.
- The Language Services team has assessed and approved thirty-nine providers to provide language concordant care.
- Doriana Magliocchi is joining the Patient Advocacy team and will be providing advocacy services including coverage on Saturdays from 10:00am-6:30pm.

Ambulatory update

- Stony Brook Advanced Specialty Care at Commack opened an Immediate Care Center on June 17th. Current hours are Monday – Friday 8 am – 4:45 pm. this walk-in Immediate Care is open to all members of the community (adults and children, 6 months and up). All patients will have access to Stony Brook's state-of-the-art Imaging services with additional care provided by our world-class physicians and compassionate staff.

Community Outreach

- Stony Brook Southampton Hospital held a Meet the SBM leadership with Dr. Bill Wertheim, Executive Vice President, SBM, Carol Gomes, CEO/COO, SBUH, and Emily Mastaler, Chief Administrative Officer, Stony Brook Southampton Hospital.



- Konstantinos Spaniolas, MD, and Georgios Georgakis, MD, demonstrated the Davinci robot which recently joined the surgery team at SBSH, peeling the skin from a grape. Members of the audience were invited to try the robot.