

## **“Alumni Spotlight”**

*A Stony Brook SOM Alumni Board Initiative  
Highlighting Prominent Alumni to Enrich and Inspire Students Today.*

*Presented by: Rafael Hernandez, MD Candidate Class of 2020*



### **Jorge Puente, MD '82**

It is with great pleasure and pride that the Stony Brook School of Medicine Alumni board student representatives introduce Dr. Jorge Puente for this month's "Alumni Spotlight" feature. A fellow graduate of Stony Brook Medicine class of '82, Dr. Puente has led an incredibly passionate and successful career as a physician and humanitarian, and we hope to inspire all current students with his story.

Dr. Puente graduated from Stony Brook School of Medicine in 1982, after which he joined the Medicine and Nephrology team at Mount Sinai hospital in New York City, and later becoming a faculty member. There he became the youngest recipient of the Solomon Berson Award for excellence in teaching medicine. In 1990 Dr. Puente joined Pfizer Pharmaceuticals, through which he revolutionized the development and approval of new pharmaceuticals and new medicines in countries such as China, Korea, and Japan; later becoming Regional President for Asia Pacific and Canada and overseeing a 500% revenue increase during his 5-year tenure. Dr. Puente became known as one of the highest ranked leaders in the pharmaceutical industry.

Dr. Puente also accomplished what many deemed impossible through his humanitarian work. The Asian Federation awarded him with the "Spirit of Asian American Award" for his work in creating medical assistance programs for the medical needs in major disasters such as the Asian Tsunami and Pakistani earthquake. In the United States, congress recognized him for his efforts in providing over 600 medicines, free of charge, to US Citizens suffering from unemployment during the height of the economic recession of 2007.

Today Dr. Puente sits on the board of the National Hispanic Medical Association and the National Board of the Smithsonian Institution, and serves as a role model and mentor for Stony Brook Medical students. Each year, he and his wife, a fellow alumna, Patricia Matos Puente MD '84 host the incoming SNMA students in their home during the week of orientation for a barbeque.

If you would like to contact Dr. Puente, you may reach him at the following email address:  
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