A MESSAGE FROM LEADERSHIP
FISCAL YEAR 2019-20 FUNDRAISING RESULTS
MAKING STONY BROOK STRONGER, TOGETHER
CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT GOAL MET
FACING THIS MOMENT, TOGETHER
STONY BROOK RESPONDS: A TIMELINE OF COVID-19
KEEPING SEAWOLVES STRONG: STUDENT EMERGENCY SUPPORT
CHANGING THE WORLD, TOGETHER
2020 GALA HONOREES INSPIRE GENEROSITY
STONY BROOK FOUNDATION LEADERSHIP
When I accepted the role of President of Stony Brook University, I knew that there existed a special relationship between our University and the Stony Brook Foundation; I knew that your philanthropy has continually opened up worlds of opportunity and action for our students, staff, faculty, neighbors on Long Island and global community. I did not know, however, how quickly and concretely our partnership would be put to the test … and proved.

This spring, Stony Brook had to entirely refocus on our COVID-19 response. The donations we had to our Student Emergency Support Fund and Health Crisis Fund were unlike any we’d ever seen, and it was through the combined effort of donors big and small that we were able to distribute nearly $1 million dollars of emergency funds to students in need. We underwrote critical supplies and treatments as well as important research initiatives for lessening the pandemic’s impact on our campus and community.

Now we are in the midst of our historic Fall 2020 semester, implementing hybrid learning and social-distance protocols for a healthy, intellectually engaged and safe campus. I know that we would not be here without the support of the Stony Brook Foundation and your generosity. This year has proved the old adage true in that the only constant has been change … but with a community like ours, the future of Stony Brook University remains bright.

Sincerely,

Maurie McInnis, PhD
President, Stony Brook University

For more than six decades, Stony Brook has been a place where great minds gather to work on the most pressing issues of our time. In these last few months, that mission has taken on a new urgency. I am incredibly proud of how Stony Brook has responded to the challenges we are facing, relying on the same values that have guided us so well in the past: Innovation. Collaboration. Discovery. Integrity.

In this time of tremendous change, we are fortunate to have found a leader in President McInnis, who is committed to guiding us forward with purpose and clarity. As a cultural historian, she knows well that times of great difficulty often unearth new opportunities for growth, and she brings vigorous ideas and fresh perspective to our task. She believes, as I do, that this is Stony Brook’s moment, and I am confident her steady hand will strengthen our resolve in the days ahead.

Now more than ever, we are deeply indebted to the generosity and commitment of our many friends. Your vital investments are the cornerstone of the University’s excellence, sustaining groundbreaking research, creating new opportunities for research and discovery and allowing us to remain a national leader in social mobility for our students. Through your engagement, we will continue to fulfill our noble mission as New York’s premier public university, and serve as a gathering place for the world’s finest minds as we face the future, stronger, together.

Sincerely,

Richard L. Gelfond ’76
Chair, Stony Brook Foundation Board of Trustees
FISCAL YEAR 2019-20
FUNDRAISING RESULTS

13,665 DONORS
$66,923,124 RAISED

DONORS FROM
50 STATES (PLUS DC)
& 25 COUNTRIES

AVERAGE GIFT
$4,897

FIRST-TIME DONORS
5,792

ENDOWED FACULTY:
66
NEW ENDOWED FACULTY:
2

GIFTS DESIGNATED TO:

RESEARCH
$30,160,236

SCHOLARSHIPS, FELLOWSHIPS AND STUDENT SUPPORT
$14,038,361

FACILITIES AND CAMPUS LIFE
$10,414,793

FACULTY AND ACADEMIC SUPPORT
$9,524,635

CAMPUS DEPARTMENT FUNDS FOR EXCELLENCE
$10,414,793

GIFTS FROM:

FOUNDATIONS (INCLUDING FAMILY FOUNDATIONS)
$32,231,370

FRIENDS
$11,842,778

CORPORATIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS
$11,073,701

ALUMNI
$11,010,396

FACULTY AND STAFF
$7,584,879

For a copy of audited financial reports, visit stonybrookfoundation.org.

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ENDOWED FACULTY:
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NEW ENDOWED FACULTY:
2

STATES (PLUS DC)
50
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25
Since it opened in 2010, Stony Brook Children’s Pediatric Emergency Department has seen a 50 percent increase in patient volume, creating an emergency of its own: an urgent need for more space, specialists and services to care for the 25,000 children seen each year.

Now, thanks to two dozen area families, and a collective $4 million gift from the Knapp Swezey, Gardener and Island Outreach foundations, Stony Brook Children’s is one step closer to creating an expanded pediatric emergency facility to serve Suffolk County’s children and the families who love them.

“The Pediatric Emergency Department has been a remarkably successful program in terms of the quality of care we’re providing and how it’s resonated with the community,” said Chair of Pediatrics Carolyn Milana, MD. “Now, thanks to the Knapp family foundations and our surrounding community of generous friends and grateful patients, we will be able to move ahead to ensure we can continue to meet the need now and into the future.”

“Time and again, the Knapp families and their foundation boards have shown such incredible commitment to the people of Long Island by their personal and philanthropic engagement with Stony Brook,” said Deborah Lowen-Klein, interim vice president for Advancement. “In fact, in addition to their generous support of the pediatric emergency department, during the early days of the pandemic, three Knapp foundations...
collectively gave $600,000 to support the COVID-19 effort at Stony Brook University Hospital.”

The 17,000-square-foot expansion will better accommodate the current volume with room for growth with the addition of exam rooms. It also will enhance support of Stony Brook Children’s American College of Surgeons-accredited Level I Pediatric Trauma Center by adding two pediatric critical care bays. The expansion will enable the pediatric emergency medicine team to see more patients, prevent backups in the Emergency Department during busy times and provide a better patient and family experience.

Plans for the Pediatric Emergency Department extend far beyond rooms and beds, however. With funding in place, Stony Brook Children’s leadership can recruit even more pediatric emergency care specialists — including pediatric emergency medicine doctors, nurse practitioners and physician assistants.

Early supporters included the Peter and Nancy Richard Family Foundation and the Lippe family. Additional generous donations came from Michael and Deirdre Guerin, James and Debra Breslawski, and Vladimir and Elena Sadov.

With the philanthropic goal met, Stony Brook Children’s will move forward and begin planning its two-year expansion project, creating the largest, best-equipped pediatric emergency resource for Suffolk County.

The Knapp foundations continue to invest in protecting the health and well-being of Long Island’s children and the families who love them.

Top: David Knapp and Michele Knapp
Middle: Danielle Knapp-SanGiovanni ’20 and Jesse SanGiovanni
Bottom: William Knapp ’78 and Jane Knapp ’78
Imagine 375 of the world’s brightest students working together around-the-clock for 24 hours to code, network, create, solve problems and compete for awards in categories as varied as artificial intelligence, security, funniest hack and best beginner hack. That’s exactly what takes place every September when Stony Brook hosts the SBUHacks 24-hour hackathon.

In addition to providing critical funding for the event, sponsors such as Softheon, Inc., Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc., SupplyHouse, BNY Mellon, Applied Visions, Inc., MLH and Facebook host tech talks, mentor students and assist in preparations for the event. Students also network with the companies about potential career opportunities in the future. This event is a campuswide effort bringing together staff from the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences, University Libraries, Office of Alumni Relations and the Career Center.

“I am truly inspired by our students’ commitment to innovating with technology along with their passion for creativity, entrepreneurship and fun,” said Interim Provost Fotis Sotiropoulos, Ph.D. “Their work in both organizing and participating in SBUHacks is exemplary of the kind of students we have in the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences — the global innovators and social entrepreneurs of tomorrow.”

CORPORATE SPONSORS SPUR COMPUTING CREATIVITY

As an organization that strives to make healthcare more affordable, accessible and plentiful for everyone, Softheon, Inc. is in the business of helping people live their best lives. And it’s exactly what the health insurance e-commerce company has done for the Stony Brook campus community for nearly 20 years.

Softheon’s extraordinary support — from delivering thousands of meals to our healthcare workers on the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic and donating $500,000 to Stony Brook’s Health Crisis Fund, to supporting the Career Center and STEM-related programs such as iCREATE, the WISE Professional Series, the Stony Brook Entrepreneur Challenge and SBUHacks — has empowered our healthcare workers, faculty and staff and given our students opportunities to grow and thrive.

The company’s recent gift to Stony Brook’s Wolf Ride Bike Share program is its latest effort to support our students. Now with twice the number of bikes available on campus, the program helps students get around Stony Brook’s 1,400-acre campus, while at the same time reducing traffic congestion and cutting down on our carbon footprint.

“This program is not just about helping students get to class on time. These bikes provide shared experiences for our Seawolves. And, importantly, they help our global community by promoting sustainable modes of transportation.”

Shaheer Khan ’21
President of the Undergraduate Student Government

SOFTHEON HELPS STUDENTS GO FURTHER, FASTER ON CAMPUS

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In 2015, the Empowerment Charitable Trust (ECT) committed its support for an interdisciplinary multiyear project developed by Associate Professor of English Eric Haralson, PhD, called “Global Citizenship and World Literature.”

Through the generosity of the Empowerment Charitable Trust, Professor Haralson developed innovative syllabi using literature, film and other media. The project established a guest-lecture series, an expansive new anthology of international writings, a website dedicated to global consciousness-raising resources, student-organized global-activism events and an interdisciplinary faculty/student advisory group.

Now, as the project continues to challenge students to confront vital questions about what it means to be a global citizen, the Empowerment Charitable Trust has generously funded an endowed professorship in global citizenship.

In January, Professor Haralson was formally installed as the Empowerment Charitable Trust Endowed Professor in Global Citizenship. Professor Haralson is creating new initiatives designed to generate widespread intellectual interest in global citizenship and ethical self-growth among Stony Brook students.

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Henry Tannous, MD, General Ting Feng Cheng Endowed Chair in Cardiothoracic Surgery, has transformed the care of adult cardiac patients at Stony Brook. Among other accomplishments, Dr. Tannous has made great strides in pursuing the most effective and advanced techniques for aortic valve replacement and coronary bypass and minimally invasive surgery for certain lung cancers. As the General Ting Feng Cheng Endowed Chair, established by Stony Brook alumni and Stony Brook Medicine Advisory Board members Carol Cheng ’96, ’97 and Eugene Cheng ’97, he will continue his remarkable clinical successes and expand his research in cardiology/cardiothoracic surgery, along with leading a collaborative effort to reduce lung cancer death rates through early detection and treatment.

When Anissa Abi-Dargham, MD, Lourie Endowed Chair in Psychiatry, uses molecular imaging techniques to study the neurobiology of schizophrenia and substance use disorders, she is transforming our understanding of schizophrenia and concurrent addictions. Now, as the Lourie Endowed Chair in Psychiatry, established by Robert Lourie, PhD, and Ivana Stolnik ’16, Dr. Dargham will have additional resources to accelerate discovery around the workings of the brain and, ultimately, develop preventive and diagnostic tools that will lead to more focused treatment interventions for schizophrenia and substance use disorders.

Ute Moll, MD, Renaissance Endowed Professor in Cancer Biology, is an internationally renowned leader in cancer biology, recognized for her seminal discoveries about the p53 tumor suppressor gene -- the most frequently mutated gene in cancer. Inspired by Dr. Moll’s work, a group of nine Renaissance Technologies families -- Stanko and graduate alumna Nicole Barle, MA ’16; Michael and Victoria Bershadsky; Sergey Butkevich and Irina Gulina; Michael and Nina Douglas; Tomislav and graduate alumna Vesna Kundic, MS ’05; Robert Louise and alumna Ivana Stolnik ’16; Mark and Jane Metzger; Vladimir and Elena Sadov; and Francesco Scattone -- came together to create the Renaissance Endowed Professorship in Cancer Biology. As the inaugural holder of the professorship, Dr. Moll will expand her landmark work in cancer pathogenesis and therapeutics. The professorship will be a centerpiece for Stony Brook’s premier cancer biology lab, and it will help the Stony Brook Cancer Center achieve National Cancer Institute (NCI) designation, which will generate more funding and support for this vital work to advance our understanding and treatment of cancer.

RENAISSANCE FAMILIES INVEST IN MEDICINE’S BEST MINDS

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The field of theoretical physics is essential to humankind’s understanding of the basic functions of the universe. Many of life’s modern conveniences, from satellite communications to diagnostic imaging technologies, have emerged from the study of the fundamental nature of the world.

At Stony Brook, the C.N. Yang Institute for Theoretical Physics (YITP) is a center of such discovery, led by some of the field’s greatest minds.

Leonardo Rastelli, PhD, a professor in the YITP and the College of Arts and Sciences Department of Physics and Astronomy and a 2020 Simons Investigator, is one of those great minds.

In recognition of his groundbreaking research in quantum field theory and string theory, Professor Rastelli has been named the inaugural holder of the Renaissance Chair in Theoretical Physics.

The chair was endowed by the Simons Foundation, Stanko Barle, Tomislav Rudic and Robert Louise. Co-founded by longtime Stony Brook friends Jim and Marilyn Simons’74, PhD’84, the Simons Foundation supports discovery-driven scientific research in the pursuit of understanding the phenomena of our world.
When COVID-19 hit, you answered the call for help. Donating millions of dollars and thousands of pieces of PPE, iPads and other technology, you helped us face the challenge head-on.

**STONY BROOK RESPONDS**

- **March 18** - The School of Medicine’s Infectious Disease Group collaborates with the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences to receive engineering expertise on the design and fabrication of face masks.
- **March 20** - The Coronavirus Crisis Challenge crowdfunding project launches with $250K in matching funds from the Della Pietra Family to underwrite critical supplies and treatments for Stony Brook Medicine.
- **March 21** - The community answers the call for the Coronavirus Crisis Challenge. The Della Pietra Family increases the match to $500K, and the Clarkson and Heintzelman Family then help increase the match to $750K.
- **March 22** - Stony Brook Medicine clinicians launch more than a dozen clinical trials to find ways to ease the symptoms and effects of COVID-19 on inpatients.
- **March 23** - The iCREATE Lab assembles hundreds of 3D-printed face shields.
- **March 25** - The Department of Chemistry produces nearly 100 gallons of hand sanitizer for the University Hospital and the Long Island State Veterans Home.
- **April 8** - The 122 students in the Renaissance School of Medicine Class of 2020 graduate early, and more than half agree to immediate deployment to fight COVID-19.
- **April 9** - A Stony Brook Medicine research study launches to see if blood plasma from people who have recovered from COVID-19 can help current patients.
- **April 20** - The Department of Computer Science team uses Twitter and AI-based language assessment to track COVID-19 symptoms and mental health in U.S. communities.
- **April 22** - A Stony Brook Medicine clinician launches more than a dozen clinical trials to find ways to ease the symptoms and effects of COVID-19 on inpatients.
- **April 29** - The Stony Brook Foundation announces a matching gift campaign whereby every gift to the Student Emergency Support Fund will be matched dollar for dollar up to $100K.
- **April 29 to May 5** - More than 950 alumni, faculty, staff and friends take part in the Seawolves Helping Seawolves Week crowdfunding campaign, bolstering overall emergency student support by $200K.
- **May 1** - The Stony Brook Meal Train reaches the 10,000 mark for community food donations to workers and medical staff at Stony Brook Medicine. Softheon, Inc. donates thousands of meals, alongside the many others who have stepped up to provide meals for our healthcare heroes.

**FACING THIS MOMENT, TOGETHER**

The first patient with confirmed COVID-19 is treated at Stony Brook University Hospital.
On March 20, longtime friends the Della Pietra Family pledged $250,000 in matching funds to ignite the 10-day Coronavirus Crisis Challenge that would underwrite critical supplies and treatments for Stony Brook University Hospital.

The community answered the call, so the Della Pietras increased the Challenge to $500,000. Again, hundreds helped meet the match — in just 24 hours — inspiring the Clarkson and Heintzelman Family to increase the Challenge’s matching funds to its ultimate goal of $750,000.

Over 1,400 friends, alumni, faculty, staff and businesses — near and far — donated through the crowdfunding website, and the project also inspired major gifts to help the University Hospital battle the outbreak.

Even after the challenge was met, gifts continued to pour in, bringing in a total of $6.7 million to support the University Hospital.

Dollars raised for the Health Crisis Fund and from the Coronavirus Crisis Challenge enabled Stony Brook to order an oxygen farm to expand the University Hospital’s reserve and purchase gloves, gowns and N95 masks for healthcare workers on the front lines of the outbreak.

CROWDFUNDING CHALLENGE KICKS OFF $6.7M IN DONATIONS TO THE HEALTH CRISIS FUND

On March 20, longtime friends the Della Pietra Family pledged $250,000 in matching funds to ignite the 10-day Coronavirus Crisis Challenge that would underwrite critical supplies and treatments for Stony Brook University Hospital.

The community answered the call, so the Della Pietras increased the Challenge to $500,000. Again, hundreds helped meet the match — in just 24 hours — inspiring the Clarkson and Heintzelman Family to increase the Challenge’s matching funds to its ultimate goal of $750,000.

Over 1,400 friends, alumni, faculty, staff and businesses — near and far — donated through the crowdfunding website, and the project also inspired major gifts to help the University Hospital battle the outbreak.

Even after the challenge was met, gifts continued to pour in, bringing in a total of $6.7 million to support the University Hospital.

Dollars raised for the Health Crisis Fund and from the Coronavirus Crisis Challenge enabled Stony Brook to order an oxygen farm to expand the University Hospital’s reserve and purchase gloves, gowns and N95 masks for healthcare workers on the front lines of the outbreak.
The knowledge imparted to us, the values instilled in us and the care given to us by our teachers and staff at the math department have shaped who we are today. Stony Brook will always be a part of our lives. When our alma mater is in need, we want to show our appreciation and make our contributions.”

Chengjian Yao, PhD ‘15

“We kept our healthcare workers safe while they risked their own health and safety to treat patients and save lives.

Electrical engineering alumnus and Chairman and CEO of ChangXin Memory Technologies, Inc. Yiming Zhu ’00 and his wife, computer science alumna Jingjing Wei ’00, gave more than 150,000 masks and 2,000 protective goggles.

Alumni Chengjian Yao, PhD ’15, Bing Wang ’12 and Li Long ’14, former students of Stony Brook Mathematics Professor Xiaoxiong Chen, reached out to their former teacher and mentor to offer help and collaborated to provide masks and other much-needed supplies.

Bethenny Frankel’s and Alexis and Billy Joel’s foundations teamed up to provide PPE to all Stony Brook University hospitals, including Southampton and Eastern Long Island.

We met the University Hospital’s needs for equipment and supplies with innovative solutions in record time.

Stony Brook engineering alumni Dawn Zier ’96, most recently the CEO of Nutrisystem, and her husband, Steven Zier ’83, supported the creation and production of a new high-volume 3D-printed face mask.

Forte Construction Corp. President Anthony Cardillo Jr. gave a significant opening contribution to the COVID-19 Rapid Response Biodesign and Medical Engineering Fund that allowed Stony Brook engineers to create face shields and a ventilator prototype in just 10 days.

The Nicholas and Marion Madonna Foundation provided funds to purchase iPads for COVID-19 patients.

Alongside donors’ incredible philanthropy, thousands of local residents reached out to the University by sharing messages of support and dropping off much-needed supplies, meals and other necessities.

1,500 people gave...
- 990,250 pieces of PPE
- 33,500 comfort care items
- 18,000 meals for healthcare workers
- 575 video messages of support
- 435 iPads

Donation response teams managed...
- 2,200 incoming emails
- 415 incoming phone calls
- 140 drop-offs
- 50 shipments of donated goods
When the pandemic forced Stony Brook’s students to leave campus, many of them faced significant challenges as a result: lost income from on-campus jobs, lack of access to technological resources, difficult housing situations at home. For a number of students, these obstacles interfered with their ability to remain in school and on track to graduate.

In true Stony Brook fashion, the community came together by donating to the Student Emergency Support Fund, established by Rick Gatteau, PhD, vice president for student affairs and dean of students.

“As our nation struggles to recover from the economic and societal impact of the worldwide COVID-19 crisis, our students will be architects of our future,” said Gatteau. “We can’t let this crisis derail their dreams and their potential to make a difference in all our lives.”

The community support has been overwhelming. During a one-week crowdfunding campaign — dubbed Seawolves Helping Seawolves Week — 950 donors came forward, boosting the emergency fund to $344,000 in mere days and helping 373 students overcome tremendous obstacles.

Before the end of the school year, nearly $1 million in emergency aid was disbursed from the Fund, including $100,000 in matching dollars from the Stony Brook Foundation, $20,000 from Shaun Massiah, DMD, and his wife, Deirdre Stanley, and $25,000 from Stony Brook Professor Emerita Nancy Squires, PhD.

“In my time at Stony Brook, I had the pleasure of mentoring and working with some truly incredible young men and women,” said Dr. Squires. “It’s heartbreaking to think that anyone might be suffering additional hardships during this already challenging time, and it’s especially troubling for me to see the dedicated and hardworking students of Stony Brook struggling. I’m grateful that I have been able to play a part in helping them get back on track and complete their education.”

Yet the need persists. Many more students continue to suffer from financial and personal crises amid the ongoing pandemic. The Student Emergency Support Fund will continue to be a critical lifeline for them throughout the 2020-21 academic year and beyond.

I had no income after losing my job due to COVID. Student emergency support funds are helping me achieve a goal I set for myself long ago, enabling me to graduate and pursue a career I love in health science. And I can continue to help my siblings in a way that no one else did for me.”

Ebony Marshall ’23
Recipient of emergency relief through the Student Emergency Support Fund
I would like to thank the Stony Brook community for the support that they have given me and many others. During a time of a lot of uncertainty, their generosity is very touching and has made me appreciate calling myself an alumna of this prestigious university. Being a Seawolf means I will always have a community looking out for me, no matter what.”

Emmanuela “Emma” Lauredent ’20
Women’s track and field, and recipient of emergency relief through the Student-Athlete Hardship Fund

STATE-OF-THE-ART DISTANCE LEARNING PLATFORM KEEPS STUDENTS ON TRACK

When COVID-19 struck the Stony Brook campus, loyal friends at the Summer Math Foundation wisely anticipated that the University might need their support. Without pause, they contacted Stony Brook. Their main concern: to ensure that upper-class mathematics undergraduates had the ability to finish their courses if they became ill or were unable to return to campus due to the pandemic. After speaking with the University and determining the best way to help, the Foundation quickly established the Summer Math Foundation Distance Learning Fund, which enabled the Department of Mathematics to purchase the classroom technology necessary to build a state-of-the-art platform for distance learning.

This wasn’t the first time the Summer Math Foundation has reached out to help Stony Brook’s mathematics students. Since 2016, the Foundation has been providing scholarships to high-performing Stony Brook undergraduate mathematics students who would like to accelerate their coursework and participate in a focused summer math learning experience at Stony Brook. The Summer Math Foundation endowed scholarships have since given five math students advanced summer research experiences that they otherwise would not have had access to if not for the scholarships.
Friends of Renaissance School of Medicine Heed the Call for Help

Four donors have given $400,000 toward medical school scholarships in match challenge

For many aspiring physicians, medical school is only a dream. The high cost of attending medical school and the resulting debt upon graduation make it unattainable for countless highly qualified students.

More than one-third of the Renaissance School of Medicine’s 2020 graduating class accrued over $250,000 in debt during their time in medical school, and that number is increasing each year, making need-based scholarships an essential tool for recruiting and training diverse and talented cohorts of future physicians, surgeons and others.

Recognizing the need to help these students and in celebration of the upcoming 50th anniversary of the founding of the Renaissance School of Medicine, Senior Vice President for the Health Sciences and Dean of the School of Medicine Kenneth Kaushansky, MD, MACP, announced a five-year match challenge to support endowed need-based scholarships for medical students. The ultimate goal: to build an endowment that will support the next generation of medical students at Stony Brook University.

“If we want to make sure the Renaissance School of Medicine remains a school of choice for the most promising students, we need to make it more affordable for them,” said Dean Kaushansky. “Hopefully, this match program will inspire our friends to reach out in support of our students.”

Longtime friends of Stony Brook the Guru Krupa Foundation and several other generous donors heeded Dr. Kaushansky’s call. In total, the Guru Krupa Foundation, Krishnareddy Gujarray, MD; Edward Weingarden ’79, MD ’85 and Judith Weingarden; and Stony Brook University Alumni Association President Robert deBrauwere, Esq. ’87 and Caryn deBrauwere ’86 have donated $400,000 to the Renaissance School of Medicine’s 50th Anniversary Scholarship Match Program — making a total impact of $800,000 and creating four endowed scholarship funds for students in need.

“We strive to provide equal access to deserving students who otherwise could not afford to pursue such opportunities,” said Mukund Padmanabhan, founder and president of the Guru Krupa Foundation. “There are few who are more deserving of that support than the hardworking students at Stony Brook University. We look forward to watching these leaders of tomorrow as they thrive in the inquisitive, compassionate, inspiring environment at the Renaissance School of Medicine.”
UNDERSTANDING HUMANITY THROUGH LITERATURE

Stephen Pallas | 5th-Year PhD candidate in English Literature

As the sole-earner of a family of four and the parent of a child with extensive medical needs, Stephen Pallas works several jobs to support his family. At the same time, he spends hours writing his dissertation, working as a research assistant, presenting at national conferences, publishing his work in academic journals and writing for the English Department blog.

Thanks to the Alumni Association Doctoral Summer Fellowship, Stephen can hone his focus on his dissertation and, ultimately, share with the world his important insight concerning the impact of British Romantic literature on cultivating empathy and inspiring institutional and cultural change.

Kiara Thomas ’21 is a senior journalism major and Africana studies minor. She is the editor-in-chief of Black World, a newspaper on campus that provides a voice for the Black and Hispanic/Latino communities, and a member of the Women’s Leadership Council.

Her passion for social justice and writing inspired her to study journalism. Her goal is to one day be editor-in-chief of her own newspaper that focuses on the challenges minority communities face. As a 2020 Stony Brook Foundation Trustee Scholar, Kiara can continue to shine an essential light on social justice issues and the needs and struggles of underrepresented students and communities.

TRUSTEE SCHOLAR USES TALENTS TO SHINE LIGHT ON SOCIAL JUSTICE

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My SBU experience was a special one; I really tried to squeeze the most out of my time there. I’m happy to have been able to leave an impact on my peers at Stony Brook and honored to leave my mark as the first official Legacy Way Scholar.”

Ricardo Moncada Peon ’20

FIRST LEGACY WAY SCHOLAR GRADUATES

Inaugural scholarship helps Ricardo Moncada Peon realize his dreams

Since 2016, 1,196 friends, alumni, faculty and staff have commemorated their Seawolves spirit and memories by purchasing a brick on Stony Brook’s Legacy Way. Funds from these purchases helped pave the way for a scholarship for students who strive to make a lasting impact on the University.

On May 22, 2020, their investment came to fruition, as the first-ever Legacy Way Scholar graduated from Stony Brook. Ricardo Moncada Peon graduated with a B.S. degree in mechanical engineering. Ricardo was involved in Stony Brook Athletics as a team member of Stony Brook men’s soccer, a representative on the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, a PACE Mentor for incoming freshmen, a facilitator for the One Love Foundation and a TA for the Intro to Stony Brook course for freshmen and transfer students.

Outside of athletics, Ricardo was proud to be part of the Stony Brook Student Ambassadors, the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers, the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and the President’s Council of Student Advisors. In the 2018-19 academic year, Ricardo was awarded the Undergraduate Recognition Award for Outstanding Achievement in Leadership.

The Legacy Way Award provided a two-year scholarship for his junior and senior years starting in the fall of 2018 until his graduation this past May. Ricardo is currently working as a controls engineer at Champion Controls, Inc. in Ronkonkoma, New York.

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Since 2000, the Stars of Stony Brook Gala has raised more than $39.9 million for scholarships, which have had a significant impact on the lives of more than 850 students. The generosity of the Stony Brook Foundation trustees and alumni and friends has enabled these exceptional scholars to pursue their passions, push the boundaries of knowledge and excel beyond expectation.

“When you made this donation, you probably knew that you were making an impact. However, what you may not have considered is how wide-reaching this impact could grow to be. It is due to your generosity that I am the first in my family to obtain a higher education, and I plan to use that education to help others.”

Sarah ’22
Coastal Environmental Studies Major
Stony Brook Foundation Trustee Scholar

COVID may have forced the cancellation of the 2020 Stars of Stony Brook Gala, but honorees Barry and Bobbi Collier still inspired friends of the University to contribute generously in support of our students. For 45 years, longtime Stony Brook Foundation Board Member Barry Collier, MD, Hon. ’03, and art historian, curator and educator Bobbi Collier, PhD, have played a central role in Stony Brook’s ascension to New York’s top public research university. Through their personal commitment and incredible generosity, Barry and Bobbi have helped shape the lives of generations of students, scientists and artists.

In honor of the Colliers’ devotion to Stony Brook, and in support of student scholarships and academic programs at the intersection of medicine and the humanities, friends and alumni contributed an extraordinary $2.38 million to the 2020 Stars of Stony Brook Gala — despite its unfortunate cancellation.

It’s no wonder. For years, Barry and Bobbi have been an inspiration to so many at Stony Brook and beyond.

More than 5 million patients worldwide have benefited from the pioneering work of former Stony Brook University Distinguished Professor of Medicine Dr. Barry Collier. While at Stony Brook, Dr. Collier conducted landmark research that led him to develop the drug abciximab/ReoPro. He continues to share his talents and dedication with Stony Brook as a member of the Medicine Advisory Board and as a trustee of the Stony Brook Foundation Board for more than 20 years.

Bobbi Collier has made an indelible impact on the Pollock-Krasner House and Study Center by serving on the Center’s Board of Advisors for more than 22 years, as Pollock-Krasner Advisory Committee chair for the last 14 and as curator of two well-received exhibitions at the Pollock-Krasner House. Her unwavering dedication has enabled this National Historic Landmark to fulfill its mission, now and well into the future: to preserve and interpret Jackson Pollock and Lee Krasner’s living and working environment, promote scholarship and encourage creativity.

Together, the Colliers created and co-teach “The Pulse of Art: Connections Between the History of Art and the History of Medicine” at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. As a result of the Colliers’ generosity, the Renaissance School of Medicine will incorporate portions of the course into the medical school’s curriculum. The Collier Family MD-MA Endowed Scholarship has also been created for a Renaissance School of Medicine student pursuing a joint degree through the Center for Medical Humanities, Compassionate Care and Bioethics.

2020 GALA HONOREES INSPIRE GENEROSITY

2020 GALA RESULTS

$2.38M TOTAL RAISED

$1.8M TOTAL RAISED FOR SCHOLARSHIPS
RAUCH FOUNDATION COMMITTED TO IMPROVING LIFE FOR ALL LONG ISLANDERS

For nearly 20 years, the Rauch Foundation has steadfastly and generously supported initiatives at Stony Brook that are dramatically improving the quality of life on Long Island. From helping students with scholarships, news literacy programs and expanded science curricula for underrepresented populations, to addressing Long Island’s increasingly challenging water quality issues, the Rauch Foundation has impacted tens of thousands of Long Islanders.

Helping children become wise news consumers

Seeing the great work the Center for News Literacy was doing when it came to teaching college students how to become discerning consumers of information, Nancy Rauch Douzinas, PhD, president of the Rauch Foundation and treasurer of the Stony Brook Foundation Board of Trustees, wanted to help the Center extend its reach beyond Stony Brook. So, she and the Foundation provided the School of Journalism with the resources it needed to establish The Long Island Institute for News Literacy Education.

Investigating and protecting local marine ecosystems

Addressing water-quality issues on Long Island has long been a priority of the Rauch Foundation, as evidenced by its longtime support of the Long Island Marine Monitoring Network and the New York State Center for Clean Water Technology in the School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences (SoMAS) and the Stony Brook University Department of Civil Engineering. With the Foundation’s support, the Center has made significant progress in addressing water issues on Long Island. With another most generous gift to the Center and a corresponding challenge grant that elicited an additional gift from an anonymous donor, the Rauch Foundation is supporting critical research on on-site wastewater treatment systems that will more efficiently and effectively remove nitrogen and other contaminants from drinking water across Long Island.

The School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences has significantly expanded its study of the region’s coastal, marine and estuary ecosystems — joining the ranks of renowned institutions such as the Smithsonian — thanks to a gift of archived data and marine specimens from Entergy Corporation.

Investing in Marine Discovery Together

Entergy Corporation has vastly enhanced Stony Brook’s ability to investigate, understand, improve and protect the region’s marine environment.

LEADING MARINE DISCOVERY TOGETHER

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The Hudson River Collection, a treasure trove of archived data and specimens collected from the Hudson River over a span of more than five decades, will advance SoMAS’ standing as a leading research and educational institution and open the door to extraordinary collaborative and interdisciplinary research opportunities.

The Hudson River Collection began in the 1960s as one of the most ambitious environmental research and assessment programs ever performed. As it grew, the Collection became increasingly important because of its comprehensive and uninterrupted view of the estuary over a significant period of time. Today, the database is unequaled, and the collection of specimens is among the largest held by any U.S. museum or university.

Entergy also made a substantial donation of seed capital to advance Stony Brook’s goal of groundbreaking scientific study related to the collection — research that dovetails with SoMAS’ expertise on ecosystems, including biodiversity, population genetics, climate change and disease.

The Collection’s data and specimens will enable leading scientists to develop collaborative and interdisciplinary research projects, leading to new discoveries that will be instrumental in understanding changes in estuarine and marine environments both locally and worldwide. We are both excited and grateful to Entergy for entrusting Stony Brook with such an incredible and unprecedented collection.”

Paul Shepson, PhD
Dean of the School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences
Established in 1965, the Stony Brook Foundation is a private 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Its primary mission is to advance the goals and strategic initiatives of Stony Brook University by raising and managing private funds. Since its inception, the Foundation has raised over $1 billion in donations, employing best practices and procedures to ensure all gifts are wisely invested and distributed consistent with each donor’s expressed intent.
For more information, including audited financial reports, visit:

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