



**TO:** University Senate

**FROM:** William Wertheim, MD, MBA  
Interim Executive Vice President for Stony Brook Medicine

**DATE:** February 5, 2024

**SUBJECT:** Interim EVP Report

---

## ACADEMIC UPDATES

### **Renaissance School of Medicine Strategic Plan Now Available**

The Renaissance School of Medicine's 2023-2028 Strategic Plan is now available, both as a flip book and as a PDF, [on the RSOM website](#). The five-year plan is the result of countless hours of planning and collaboration among many faculty, staff and learners, who address the key academic components of research, education, and diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging (DEIB). Though all three components are addressed independently, the ideas and aspects contained within each are closely integrated and aligned with the RSOM's clinical mission contained in the Stony Brook Medicine Strategic Plan that was released earlier in 2023.

### **[Family Legacy Inspires Couple To Create Full Scholarships For Stony Brook Medicine Students](#)**

Last December, Douglas Brand, one of the first doctors to open Stony Brook University Hospital in 1980, and his wife Barbara, added \$500,000 to the Drs. Douglas and Barbara Brand Diversity in Medicine Endowed Scholarship Fund. The Brands' latest investment, part of their family's ongoing commitment to education, provides a total of \$750,000 to their endowment with New York State's match program, as well as unlocks \$750,000 to the University's unrestricted endowment with the Simons Foundation \$500 million gift to Stony Brook. The couple established the fund in 2016 to ease the financial burden for medical students from diverse backgrounds. Our heartfelt thanks to the Brands for their contributions, from which the Renaissance School of Medicine's students will benefit for generations.

### **[Wei Zhao Named a 2023 Fellow of the National Academy of Inventors](#)**

In December, Dr. Wei Zhao, Vice Chair of Radiology Research, Professor of Radiology and Biomedical Engineering at the Renaissance School of Medicine, was elected as a Fellow of the



National Academy of Inventors (NAI). Election to NAI Fellow status is considered the highest professional distinction accorded solely to academic inventors. Dr. Zhao will be inducted as a NAI Fellow at the NAI 13<sup>th</sup> annual meeting on June 18 in Raleigh, North Carolina. Dr. Zhao was an integral part of two teams of inventors who were recently issued U.S. patents. She, along with Department of Radiology members Amirhossein Goldan, Andrew Labella, and Anthony R. Lubinsky were issued a patent for their work on a high-resolution depth-encoding PET detector with prismatic light guide array. Drs. Zhao and Lubinsky, along with Adrian Howansky also received a patent for their invention of a flat panel X-ray imager with scintillating glass substrate.

### **School of Social Work Researchers Honored by the Society for Social Work and Research**

School of Social Work Associate Professor Zachary A. Morris has been named a recipient of the 2024 Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR) Social Policy Researcher Award for an Emerging Scholar. Professor Morris conducts policy relevant research on the financial and social inclusion of people with disabilities. He was recognized by the SSWR as an emerging scholar who has made notable contributions to research that has influenced the direction, design, and/or implementation of social policy and its effects on marginalized and oppressed populations. “As an emerging scholar, Dr. Morris’ work has focused on removing the financial barriers to the full and equal participation of people with disabilities in all aspects of society,” said Dean of the School of Social Welfare Shari Miller.

Assistant Professor Kristen Brock-Petroshius received the 2024 SSWR Outstanding Social Work Doctoral Dissertation award for her dissertation, “Changing Dominant Carceral Attitudes: A Community Organizing Field Experiment,” which demonstrates how the use of strategic community organizing interventions increases support for racial equity policies. The award recognizes dissertations exemplifying the design and conduct of quality research by doctoral-level social workers. “This work is an example of strong community partnership science to effect policy and structural change,” said Professor Brock-Petroshius, who presented the findings from her study at the SSWR conference in January.

### **Debra Brown Recognized by Nassau-Suffolk HIV Health Services Planning Council**

Debra Brown, senior education specialist for the SHP’s Center for Public Health Education (CPHE), was presented the Distinguished Provider Award at the December 1st World AIDS Day Celebration sponsored by the Nassau-Suffolk HIV Health Services Planning Council at the United Way of Long Island. Debra has worked in the HIV/AIDS field for the past 30+ years in various positions, training health professionals, supervising HIV/AIDS case management and independent living housing programs, and working for the NYS Department of Health's AIDS



Epidemiology Unit. She has also co-authored a research study examining the relationship between AIDS knowledge and risk factors for incarcerated women, which was published in the Journal of Sociology and Social Research. She has worked at the CPHE since 2001.

### **School of Nursing Welcomes New Associate Dean of Nursing Research and Innovation**

The School of Nursing has a newly appointed Associate Dean of Nursing Research and Innovation, Ann-Margaret Navarra. Dr. Navarra recently became President Elect of the Eastern Nursing Research Society (ENRS), an organization dedicated to creating a community of nurses interested in promoting research in the eastern region of the United States. Her research interests include the design and implementation of technology-supported behavioral interventions for improved disease self-management among the HIV-infected youth. An NIH-funded researcher and board-certified pediatric nurse practitioner, Dr. Navarra has presented at regional and national meetings and conferences and is published in the Journal of Pediatric Health Care and the Journal of the Association of Nurses in AIDS Care.

### **School of Health Professions and Renaissance School of Medicine Faculty Receive OVPR Award**

Sharon Martino, clinical associate professor, physical therapy program, along with co-investigators Kelly Warren, clinical associate professor, physician assistant program; Kristin Thomson, clinical assistant professor, physician assistant program; Wei Yin, associate professor, Department of Biomedical Engineering; and Adam Gonzalez, vice chair of behavioral health, Renaissance School of Medicine have been awarded a Fall 2023 OVPR Grant for their research, "Effects of activity tracking and virtual reality mindfulness on stress and cardiometabolic health of college students." Their research will address rising rates of stress and anxiety among college students and examine the effect of exercise tracking and a virtual reality mindfulness program on reducing stress. The team will examine the relationship between stress/anxiety and cardiometabolic health in this population of young adults

### **2024 Department of Medicine Pilot Project Grants Awarded to Five Principal Investigators**

Five principal investigators have been named as recipients of the 2024 Department of Medicine Pilot Project Grant awards. Two from the Division of Nephrology and Hypertension received the prestigious award for their respective works: Dr. Chelsea Estrada for "PLVAP mediates endothelial cytoskeletal alterations and injury in glomerular disease," and Dr. Farrukh Korashy for "The use of natural language processing to predict acute kidney injury in critically ill patients." Dr. Zhongju Lu, from the Division of General, Geriatric and Hospital Medicine, received his award for "Aging: Developmental change of PI3 kinase signaling in the heart," while Dr. Audun Lier, from the Division of Infectious Diseases," was recognized for his project,



“Infectious diseases complications, screening, and PrEP uptake among Veterans who inject drugs.” From the Division of Pulmonary, Critical Care and Sleep Medicine, Dr. Abigail Chua was named a recipient for her project, “Diaphragm breath support exercise training in patients w/ persistent symptoms following COVID-19: a parallel-group, single-blind, randomized controlled trial.” Our congratulations go to these well-deserving award winners and their respective project mentors.

### [Renaissance School of Medicine Researchers Receive Young Academic Inventors Award](#)

On Dec. 11, the National Academy of Inventors, Stony Brook University Chapter (NAI-SBU) presented its 2023 Young Academic Inventors Award to three Stony Brook researchers, including two from the Renaissance School of Medicine, at the Young Academic Inventors Award Symposium. Sima Mofakham, Assistant Professor in the Department of Neurosurgery, won the award “for her inventions of an automated method to measure the level of consciousness, as well as on the neuromodulatory approaches to restore consciousness in brain injury patients.” Jann Stavro, a medical physics resident in the Department of Radiology, was recognized “for his inventions on the development of novel amorphous selenium sensors for medical imaging applications.” The award recipients were honored with a certificate and a monetary award.

## CLINICAL UPDATES

### AWARDS & ACCOLADES:

- [Stony Brook University Hospital \(SBUH\)](#) was recognized on December 3rd by the [U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services \(HHS\)](#) for its public commitments to decarbonizing its operations and improving resilience in the face of climate change. As part of the 2023 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP28), HHS announced that SBUH was one of more than 130 organizations to join the White House-HHS Health Sector climate pledge, committing to align with the Biden administration’s goal of reducing emissions by 50% by 2030 and achieving net zero emissions by 2050.

SBUH continues to lead the way in tackling emissions and is already working to achieve climate resilience through several initiatives, including:

- [Greening the Operating Room](#)
- [Reducing energy and water consumption](#)
- [Growing and serving healthy foods](#)
- [Using safer and fewer chemicals](#)
- [Purchasing environmentally preferable materials](#)



- [Implementing Green Building initiatives](#)
- [Investigating how to decrease emissions from transportation](#)
- [Focusing on waste reduction and recycling](#)

This year, SBUH was once again recognized by Practice Greenhealth as [a national leader in environmental sustainability](#) and earned the 2023 Greenhealth Emerald Award. This award recognizes the hospital, as part of the top 20 percent, for its ongoing commitment to improving its environmental performance and efforts to build sustainability and resiliency into the operations and culture of the institution. The hospital also received top honors in Practice Greenhealth's Circles of Excellence Awards, which recognize hospitals that have not only earned an award for all-around sustainability achievement but have also been identified as one of up to the 10 highest performing hospitals nationwide in each area of sustainability expertise.

- The [Cardiothoracic Surgery Division at SBUH](#) has once again earned the distinguished three-star rating from [The Society of Thoracic Surgeons \(STS\)](#) for its patient care and outcomes in isolated coronary artery bypass grafting (CABG or heart bypass surgery) procedures. The three-star rating awarded for the July 2020 - June 2023 analytic period denotes the highest category of quality and places SBUH among the elite for heart bypass surgery in the US and Canada. SBUH received its first three-star rating in 2017 and has consistently received top ratings since.

The STS star rating system is one of the most sophisticated and highly regarded overall measures of quality in health care, rating the benchmarked outcomes of cardiothoracic surgery programs across the US and Canada. The star rating measures a surgical team's performance before, during and after coronary artery bypass grafting surgery. More than 95 percent of hospitals in the U.S. with cardiothoracic surgical programs submit data to the STS, and approximately 20 percent of participants receive the three-star rating for CABG surgery.

Isolated coronary artery bypass graft (CABG) surgery is the most often performed cardiac surgery, but like any open-heart procedure, it requires a high degree of expertise to achieve clinical excellence. STS star ratings of sites enrolled in public reporting provide accurate, unbiased information about the quality and safety of the care provided by different heart surgery providers. It is considered the definitive national reporting system for cardiac surgery.

- [Adam Gonzalez](#), PhD, Assoc. Professor and Vice Chair of Behavioral Health in the Dept of Psychiatry and Behavioral Health in the Renaissance School of Medicine (RSOM) at



Stony Brook University, is one of 11 fellows in New York State to be named to SUNY's Hispanic Leadership Institute Class for 2024.

- SBM continues to demonstrate its national leadership role in implementing novel and innovative surgical techniques to benefit patients with cancer. On Sept. 21 and 22, the [Dept. of Surgery](#) and [Stony Brook Cancer Center](#) presented the first Pressurized Intraperitoneal Aerosol Chemotherapy (PIPAC) Workshop for surgeons held in the northeastern U.S. and the second-ever workshop of this kind in the US. The PIPAC procedure uses pressurized intraperitoneal aerosol chemotherapy during cancer surgery. The workshop, held at SBUH, included a case observation, which was the first performed outside of research studies in the U.S. The two-day workshop, which used the current commercially available equipment, was hosted by [Georgios V. Georgakis, MD, PhD, FACS](#), surgical oncologist and Assoc. Professor of Surgery, and Professor Marc Pocard from the Université Paris Cité, INSERM; Hepato-Biliary-Pancreatic Gastrointestinal, Surgery and Liver Transplantation, Pitié Salpêtrière Hospital in France. Twelve cancer surgeons, from the US and the country of Colombia, attended classroom sessions, observed the PIPAC procedure as it was performed on a patient and tested on the workshop content to earn a certificate.
- SBUH achieved its third Consecutive FACT Accreditation for our clinical, apheresis and laboratory programs in stem cell transplantation/cellular therapy. "The FACT Standards promote improvement and progress in cellular therapy and regenerative medicine. Meeting these requirements demonstrates a commitment to controlling every aspect that impacts the quality of products and therapeutic care. FACT Standards are evidence-based requirements set by international teams of world-renowned experts vested in the improvement and progress of cellular therapy." The requirements for FACT accreditation are used by US News & World Report in their hospital rankings and highlight the quality of individual programs.

#### PERSONNEL UPDATES:

- [Kenneth W. Gow, MD, MHA, FACS, FAAP](#), has been named the new Chief of Pediatric Surgery in the Dept. of Surgery. Additionally, he was recently elected the Chair of Pediatric Surgical Subspecialties Alliance of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP). Dr. Gow joins Stony Brook after 16 years at Seattle Children's Hospital where he was a pediatric general and thoracic surgeon, Professor of Surgery (at the University of Washington), Co-Medical Director of the Vascular Access Service and Medical Advisor of the Medical Executive Committee. His long, distinguished career has earned him accolades as a pediatric surgeon, healthcare administrator, medical director, surgical strategist, and national leader. Dr. Gow has also been recognized with several regional



and national awards, including being named a Top Doctor by the esteemed Castle Connolly Top Doctors list since 2011.

- Donna Heinemann, MD, was named the Medical Director for Stony Brook ACO, LLC, the Accountable Care Organization (ACO) of SBM. Dr. Heinemann brings years of invaluable experience, having served in a series of critical leadership positions, including Vice Chair for Clinical Affairs for the Stony Brook Dept. of Medicine. Her academic journey began at Johns Hopkins University, where she earned her undergraduate degree, followed by her MD from Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. Her expertise was honed during her residency at New York Hospital/Cornell Medical Center, where she also held the role of chief resident. Throughout her career, Dr. Heinemann has been a beacon of excellence in medical education, mentoring medical students, residents, fellows, and faculty in the nuances of general internal medicine and primary care. Her dedication to education extends beyond traditional boundaries, and her leadership acumen is evident through her multifaceted contributions in various leadership positions at Stony Brook, including the CPMP Managed Care Contracting and Patient Experience Committees. The Stony Brook ACO, LLC is a group of doctors and healthcare providers within the hospitals of SBM who provide coordinated high-quality care to patients. It ensures that patients receive the right care at the right time with the goal of avoiding unnecessary duplication of services and preventing medical errors. In her new role as Medical Director, Dr. Heinemann will support collaborative and accountable provider relationships, recognizing and rewarding improvements in quality and cost efficiency. She will closely collaborate across the organization to foster a healthcare ecosystem that is more coordinated, efficient, and driven by quality outcomes. Dr. Heinemann's appointment marks an important milestone in our commitment to delivering high-quality healthcare. We are thrilled to welcome her, confident that her expertise and leadership will steer us toward a future of exemplary care delivery and transformative healthcare models.

#### OPERATIONAL UPDATES:

##### Emergency Services:

- During calendar year 2023 the Emergency Dept. experienced its highest volume in history, having seen 105,357 patients. The month of December 2023 also had the highest volume in history with 411 Emergency Dept. visits occurring in one day.
- The Emergency Management Dept. completed a Chempack exercise in December. The Chempack is part of the federal government's Strategic National Stockpile program. Chempack is the "forward" placement of nerve agent antidotes to provide state and local governments a sustainable resource; and improve their capability to respond quickly to a nerve agent attack and other chemical exposures. SBUH is a "hub" for the



Chempack program which entails being responsible to provide required supplies to both our hospital as well as EMS agencies, Mather Hospital and St. Charles Hospital.

#### Heart Institute:

- A multitude of community events associated with the Heart Institute are planned to demonstrate SBM's commitment to heart health. Events include Heart Month weekly events, including blood pressure and cholesterol screenings, heart health educational quizzes and prizes/giveaways. There will be hands-on CPR awareness demonstrations held weekly throughout February, and an American Heart Association "Go Red Day" Event, featuring Dr. Smadar Kort who will participate in a panel discussion with cardiologists from other Long Island hospitals. The Heart Institute will also be represented at a Town of Brookhaven health fair, providing information about our services and various demonstrations.

#### Surgical Services:

- In December, the endoscopy units went live with Cerner scheduling. This standardizes the process across all procedural areas and will assist in improving utilization by enabling urgent cases to be added to the schedule in a timely fashion.
- As of this month, SBUH has greatly improved the pre-procedure process for all patients scheduled for a colonoscopy or endoscopy. All patients will now be called two weeks prior to their scheduled procedure to ensure they are optimized and prepared. We expect this to greatly reduce cancellations, no-shows, and inadequate procedure preparations.

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

- The results are in for 2024 Best of Long Island voting and Stony Brook Women's is pleased to announce for the second year in the row it was voted Best Midwives, and for the fourth year in a row, Best Maternity Ward.
- For the fourth cycle in a row, the Stony Brook Children's pediatric echo lab has achieved accreditation by the Intersocietal Accreditation Commission (IAC) in Echocardiography. IAC accreditation highlights programs that have successfully achieved stringent standards of care, according to the American Society of Echocardiography, within their facilities. For the first time, Stony Brook Southampton is included in our pediatric ICAEL accreditation.
- Dr. Laurie Panesar has been appointed to serve as Vice Chair of Ambulatory Operations for the Dept. of Pediatrics. The Division Chief of Pediatric Cardiology, Dr. Panesar has taken on the role of Medical Director of Ambulatory Quality and has focused on projects that span primary care and the subspecialties. She has optimized throughput,





addressed, and improved the patient experience, and assessed clinical staff workplace satisfaction.

Ancillary/Support Services:

- Working in conjunction with Distribution Services' bed swap out initiative, the Recycling Dept. has collected and recycled 23,840 pounds of mixed metal in the month of December. This is a 311% increase over an average month and resulted in a \$1,907 reimbursement into the hospital general fund.
- From July 2023 through December 2023 SBUH has saved \$1.1M through implementing Clinical Value Analysis projects, switching to nationwide group purchasing contracts and receiving vendor rebates.
- Purchasing has lowered their price exception error rate from 14.71% in August down to 4.09% in November. When placing purchase orders for supplies electronically between the hospital and vendors, the hospital's pricing matched the vendor's pricing 95.91% of the time. This high matching rate reduces invoice discrepancies which prevents bills from being paid on time and lessens the back log in the Accounts Payable Dept.. Our third-party vendor, GHX, which analyzes the data, confirmed it is one of the lowest price exception rates it has witnessed among its hospital clients.
- The Laboratory is now performing the CD34+ Stem Cell Enumeration assay on the Becton Dickinson FACSLyric in the Flow Cytometry Laboratory. This was previously performed on the Beckman Coulter Navios as a lab developed test. The new assay is FDA-approved with automated software that establishes the proper regions for gating on the stem cells. This assay is used to enumerate stem cells for patients undergoing a stem cell transplant or for donors who are giving stem cells to a patient in need. The stem cell transplant lab needs this assay to quantitate the exact volume of stem cells collected and to be transfused into the patient. Therefore, the precision on this assay is of the utmost importance for the success of the stem cell transplant.
- On December 7th, SBM's Radiology Dept. introduced the deployment of the cutting-edge PET/CT at the Ambulatory Care Pavilion. Setting a new standard in efficiency, our advanced PET/CT performs PET scans in an industry-leading 20 minutes, redefining the pace of diagnostics. The PET/CT is equipped to conduct CT scans across the entire spectrum of the human body, spanning cardiac, vascular, and neurological radiology, providing a faster and more comprehensive approach to patient care.
- The construction of the recently developed ER CT room has finished and the brand-new Siemens CT has been successfully delivered. Installation is scheduled to begin in late January, with the system expected to be operational by January 28th. This state-of-the-art CT boasts the fastest reconstruction time, ensuring swift and efficient scans. This advanced technology promises outstanding image clarity, providing SBUH Emergency Dept. patients with cutting-edge tools for superior diagnostic results.



- SBM pharmacy residents presented four posters at the 2023 American Society of Health System Pharmacists Midyear Conference on December 6<sup>th</sup> in Anaheim, CA. This is the largest annual gathering of pharmacists in the nation. The residents and their posters are listed below:
  - Alexandra Erney, PharmD: Evaluation of the Incidence of Acute Kidney Injury with the Use of Intravenous Ibuprofen at Stony Brook Children’s Hospital
  - Avleen Kaur PharmD: Evaluation of Initiation of Prophylaxis Heparin in Post Neurological Interventions in a Neurology Critical Care Unit in Obese Patients
  - Leah Kowalsky PharmD: Evaluation of Intravenous Amiodarone Use in Post-Cardiac Surgery Patients at SBUH
  - Zuzanna Pociecha PharmD: Evaluation of the Appropriateness of Dual Anaerobic Coverage with Metronidazole

Human Resources:

Employee/Physician Engagement & Culture of Safety Survey 2023 Results

- SBM-Wide Engagement Scores increased from 3.72 to 3.96 bringing SBM from the 5<sup>th</sup> to the 40<sup>th</sup> percentile compared to our peer organizations.
- Scores increased on 90 out of 90 (100%) of all survey items.
- Survey results were presented to employees at the SBM Town Hall Meeting on January 25.
- Hospital leadership and Dept. managers will review the results with their teams and engage employees and physicians in creating and implementing action plans addressing any opportunities for improvement.
- Updates will be periodically shared with all employees and physicians as we continue to take action on the feedback and suggestions shared in the survey.

Years of Service	Employee #s
1	780
5	325
10	163
15	166
20	86
25	63
30	39
35	31
40	9
45	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>1663</b>

Career Service Milestone Program:

- The Career Service Recognition Program, which compliments the University Service Award Program, recognizes, and awards eligible staff for their dedicated service to SBM at key service milestones, (one year, five years, and every five-year milestone afterward). On the right, a service milestone breakdown for SBUH employees as of 12/31/2023.

Information Technology:

- Several operational improvements were implemented to address information technology needs. To enhance security and improve functionality, the Mobile Device



team retired old iPhones (iPhone 8 and earlier) to ensure the SBUH user community is using the latest technologies. Additionally, the Network Services team decommissioned the legacy network firewall equipment at Stony Brook Southampton Hospital. The connectivity and management for SBSH's firewall is now being performed by the SBM Network Services team. Finally, to reduce the risk of malicious activity, the System Operations team enforced Multi-factor Authentication on all Microsoft Cloud (Azure) access. To add redundancy to our Cisco VoIP Telephony platform, the Unified Communications team added secondary servers in the SBM off-site data center in Opti9.

- As SBM transitions to TailorMed, it will help to reduce service and medication costs for Cancer Center patients. TailorMed is a comprehensive software solution that automates end to end financial navigation by using data and advanced analytics. The platform's products streamline all steps of the process, from benefit investigation and out of pocket estimation to enrollment and management of approved programs.
- The team has created the HealthIntent Data Warehouse which represents Stony Brook's post-acute care patient population to CarePort. This will assist to drive quality of care by increasing the number of completed transitional care management phone calls post-discharge to ultimately improve transitions, outcomes, and reduce readmissions for patients. CarePort is an end-to-end platform bridging acute and post-acute EHR data while providing visibility into the entire patient journey for providers, physicians, payers and Accountable Care Organization. Healthcare professionals can efficiently and effectively coordinate patient care to better track and manage patients as they are discharged to skilled nursing teams for facilities both inside and outside health systems.
- SBUH uses patient isolation orders to support the Centralized Throughput Office to ensure patients are cohorted or isolated appropriately on hospital units. These orders create the Isolation Precautions that are placed on the patient's banner bar. Previously, the orders did not contain the organism responsible for the isolation, but rather only the type of precautions (i.e. contact, droplet). The orders now contain the organism which is readily viewed by staff in the Centralized Throughput office to support safer patient transfers to and in between units.
- The SBUH Oracle Cerner EMR database was successfully upgraded to the current supported database version. The current database version allows us to remain up to date on code and maintain the integrity of the hospital's electronic medical record. In addition, the solution is now prepared for future functionality releases.
- The ProvationMD solution scheduling process has been transitioned from IDX scheduling to the Oracle Cerner EWS scheduling solution. The ProvationMD solution is used for Endoscopy and motility testing patients. The change in scheduling solutions streamlines the scheduling process with enhanced data feeds directly to ProvationMD.



- A new PowerPlan to order vasopressors has been built and replaces the previous version. This will ensure that the plan correctly guides nursing staff to titrate medications based on the same physiologic criteria. The PowerPlan contains all of the titratable medications, and the medications can only be ordered this way. The Joint Commission allows for more than one titratable medication to be ordered and nurses are permitted to use their judgment if there is more than one vasopressor medication ordered.

#### Patient Experience:

- SBUH's 16 South will receive the Quarterly Patient Experience Improvement Award as it has achieved the highest level of improvement this quarter and sustained consistent improvement in Press Ganey metrics for the past 12 months.
- Dr. Thomas Lee, Press Ganey's Chief Medical Officer, came to present and provide Compassionate Connected Care update workshops for staff and an Executive Business Review of national trends and our SBM patient and employee data.
- Nicole Rossol, Chief Patient Experience Officer presented at the Next Generation Patient Experience Conference as a panel expert on "Patient and Caregiver Engagement Strategies" and the Chief Experience Officer 2024 Think Tank."
- The Health Equity Strategic Plan was completed and the date for Joint Commission Advanced Health Equity Certification is scheduled for February 1, 2024 for SBUH.

#### Quality Management:

##### Team SB Safe

- Specific event types were added to the Infection Control general event. This allows Healthcare Epidemiology Dept. staff to enter these events and notify the Quality Improvement Dept. of an infection. SB Safe file fields were developed to correlate with the current REDCap document that is now linked to the SB safe file. This will result in a timely drill down on specific infection opportunities.

#### FACILITIES UPDATES

- East Hampton Emergency Dept.: Construction is proceeding on schedule. Completion is on track for Fall 2024.
- Pediatric Emergency Dept.: The project is in the construction documentation phase and the CON application is in the process of being prepared. We anticipate construction to commence in 2024.
- Ronald McDonald House: The Ground Lease has been executed and approved by NYS AG and OSC offices. The construction documents are nearing completion, and we expect to begin construction on the site work portion of the project in 2024.



- Ambulatory Care Pavilion: The building is in the process of renovation to accommodate new services, to include comprehensive services provided through the Heart Institute, a Procedural Suite, expanded Endoscopy Services and a new Breast Center Suite. The Heart Institute is planned to open in the late spring, and the other services will follow. As part of the renovation, the building will be rebranded as Advanced Specialty Care Stony Brook.

SUCF Managed Projects:

- Ongoing meetings regarding the study of the exterior of the HST and BST

## **ADDITIONAL SBM NEWS**

### **Accepting Applications: LINCATS Pilot Program**

The Long Island Network for Clinical and Translational Science (LINCATS) is awarding up to two \$25,000 [pilot grants](#) to fund innovative translational science research projects. Each project should address a critical issue in translational science and be performed over one year. The awards are intended to facilitate new research directions and ultimately result in competitive external proposals. Single and multi-investigator teams composed of postdoctoral fellows and/or faculty affiliated with LINCATS are eligible to apply. All submissions must be uploaded online as PDFs no later than Friday, February 9. For additional details and requirements as well as for the Submittable submission link, visit [the LINCATS Pilot Program website](#).

### **Call for Submissions: 18th annual Women in Medicine & Science Research Day**

With the 18th annual Women in Medicine & Science Research Day taking place on Wednesday, March 6, the RSOM's Office of Faculty Affairs is calling for the submission of abstracts that celebrate research, discoveries, and achievements in medicine and science. Faculty, nurse practitioners, postdoctoral fellows, fellows, residents, medical students, and graduate and undergraduate students are encouraged to submit their abstracts, including original research, case reports and case series. The deadline for abstract submissions is Saturday, February 10. For additional information, please visit the [Women in Medicine & Science Research Day website](#).