



# CAPITOLS *and* COMMUNITIES



NEWS FROM THE OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS

---

## TAKEUCHI RECEIVES EUROPEAN INVENTOR AWARD 2018



*Esther Sans Takeuchi, PhD*

Esther Sans Takeuchi, PhD, has won the 2018 European Inventor Award in the "Non-EPO countries," the European Patent Office (EPO) announced today. The award was given to her by the EPO at a ceremony held recently in Paris. Of the four U.S. scientists nominated for the award, Takeuchi, the William and Jane Knapp Endowed Chair in Energy and the Environment, a Distinguished Professor of Chemistry in the [College of Arts & Sciences](#) and in Materials Science and Chemical Engineering in the [College of Engineering and Applied Sciences](#) at Stony Brook University, and Chief Scientist of the

Energy Sciences Directorate at Brookhaven National Laboratory, is the only American to bring home Europe's most prestigious prize of innovation.

[Read the full story](#)

[Up In Albany](#)  
[On the Hill](#)  
[In Our Community](#)

---

## Up in Albany

### 2017-18 Legislative Session Adjourns

The New York State Senate and Assembly gaveled out this month ending their scheduled legislative session. Below are some legislative highlights for Stony Brook University and Stony Brook Medicine:

**Stony Brook Southampton Hospital Ground Lease Bill Passes Senate and Assembly:** Sponsored by [Senator Ken LaValle](#) and [Assemblyman Fred Thiele](#), this legislation



(L-R): New York State Senator Ken LaValle and Assemblyman Fred Thiele - sponsors of the Stony Brook Southampton Ground lease bill.

authorizes the [Southampton Hospital Association](#) (SHA) to construct a new [Stony Brook Southampton Hospital](#) on [Stony Brook University's Southampton campus](#).

Widely supported by south fork residents, local governments and community organizations, funds to construct the facility will be raised by SHA through private donations. SHA expects the funds to be raised and construction to begin within the next five to ten years. A new hospital on the campus will compliment the growing academic programs at Stony Brook Southampton and will create local jobs. The bill must still be signed into law by [Governor Cuomo](#).

**Ronald McDonald House LI:** Ground lease legislation sponsored by [Senate Majority Leader John Flanagan](#) and [Assemblyman Steve Englebright](#) passed the Senate and Assembly and will authorize [Ronald McDonald House LI](#) (RMCD LI) to construct and manage a new facility on the Stony Brook Hospital campus. RMCD LI must raise private funds to pay for construction of the facility, which will provide families with a comfortable environment near their children and health care providers. This facility will be in addition to the RMCD LI family room in the [Department of Pediatrics](#). The bill must be signed into law by Governor Cuomo.

**\$175,000 for Lyme and Tick-Borne Disease research** was secured through the New York State [Senate Task Force on Lyme and Tick-Borne Diseases](#) whose members include Senator LaValle and [Senator Kemp Hannon](#). The funding will help create a state-of-the-art infectious disease laboratory for Stony Brook Medicine and other regional scientists to support ongoing research in the fight against Lyme and Tick-borne diseases.

A bill implementing a **labor contract agreement** related to compensation and benefit modifications negotiated between the Executive Branch and United University Professions (UUP) passed both houses. The ratification vote on the contract by members is set to take place in September, and the bill must be signed by the Governor to be enacted.

The '**Procurement Integrity Act**', opposed by SUNY, passed in the Senate but did not come up for a vote in the Assembly. The legislation would have increased the approval time and resulted in an escalation of costs for commodities and service contracts.

---

## On the Hill

### SBU Postdoc Wins Prestigious AAAS Science Policy Fellowship



Lyl Tomlinson

After winning the NASA Fame Lab science communication competition in 2014, Pharmacology Postdoc Lyl Tomlinson ('17) will now make an even broader impact as one of the American Association for the Advancement of Science's ([AAAS](#)) newest science policy fellows in Washington, DC.

The premiere science policy fellowship in the U.S., the [AAAS Science and Technology Policy Fellowship](#) program brings PhD-level scientists and engineers to Washington for an exciting crash course in policy making from the front lines. Tomlinson's one-year fellowship will place him in the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Office of the Director, where he will contribute to NIH-wide strategic initiatives such as those funded through the agency's Common Fund.

[Read the full story](#)

## EDNA Analysis: A Key to Uncovering Rare Marine Species

The days of searching the oceans around the world to find and study rare and endangered marine animals are not over. However, an emerging tool that can be

used with just a sample of seawater may help scientists learn more about rare marine life than ever before. According to [Ellen Pikitch, PhD](#), of Stony Brook University's School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences ([SoMAS](#)), this 21st Century tool that holds such promise is [eDNA](#) analysis. Her explanation was published in a perspectives piece on June 15 in

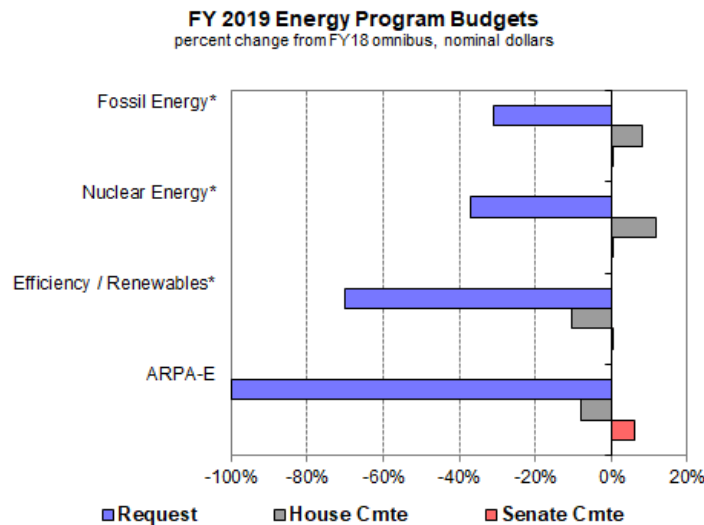
[Science](#).

[Read the full story](#)



Ellen K. Pikitch, PhD

## Energy Funding: In Senate, More Good News for Office of Science, ARPA-E



\*Flat in Senate bill. Based on agency and legislative data. © 2018 AAAS

The Senate Appropriations Committee's [Energy and Water Development \(E&W\) spending bill](#) continues Congressional push-back against the sharp Department of Energy (DOE) [R&D cuts](#) recommended by the White House. In the Senate bill, the Office of Science would receive \$6.65 billion and ARPA-E would receive \$375 million. Both funding levels are new historic highs. [The House E&W bill](#) would fund the department's Office of Science at \$6.6 billion, a \$340 million increase above FY18, and ARPA-E at \$325 million, a \$28 million cut below FY18.

Stony Brook's [Office of Government Relations](#) continues to work closely with the Association of American Universities ([AAU](#)) and the Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities ([APLU](#)) to advocate for increased research funding in the FY19 budget.

[Read more](#)

## In Our Community

### Stony Brook Film Festival to Shine a Spotlight on Cultural Heritage, Diversity

The Stony Brook Film Festival has always been about great storytelling. This year's festival, which is in its 23rd year and running from July 19 to July 28, is no exception. "The Stony Brook Film Festival is about great films from the U.S. and around the world," said Alan Inkles, founder and director of the Stony Brook Film Festival and director of the Staller Center for the Arts. "As in years past, we have all genres covered in the festival, from strong narratives and documentaries to comedies, thrillers and even science fiction.

[Read the full story](#)



*The Etruscan Smile with Brian Cox and Rosanna Arquette. (Photo: Po Valley Productions)*

## Three Strohm Sisters Foundation and Stony Brook Doctor Take a Personal Approach to a Global Challenge

With the number of diagnoses around the world expected to surpass 20 million by 2030, cancer is truly a global health





*Three Strohm Sisters Family Foundation Vice President Ed Strohm and Stony Brook Medicine Associate Professor of Pediatrics Laura Hogan, the recipient of research funding from the Three Strohm Sisters Family Foundation.*

challenge.

But for many of those leading the fight against the disease - as activists, fundraisers, doctors and researchers - the cause is extremely personal. Just ask Ed Strohm. The longtime New York City court officer serves as vice president of the Three Strohm Sisters Family Foundation, a non-profit foundation whose mission of raising money for cancer research began when his three aunts - Lucille Montrony, Jane Stanczuk and Kathy Sama - were diagnosed with breast cancer.

At Stony Brook Medicine, [Laura Hogan, MD](#), associate professor of pediatrics, pediatric hematology/oncology, focuses her research on acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL), the most common form of cancer found in children. With support from the Three Strohm Sisters Family Foundation, Dr. Hogan has focused her research on gaining a better understanding of relapsed ALL, so that doctors can define better-targeted therapies, with the eventual goal of improved outcomes.

[Read the full story](#)

## Virtual Reality Tool Serves as Therapy at Long Island State Veterans Home

Thanks to financial support from the Bowlers to Veterans Link charitable foundation, the LISVH is the first state veterans home in the country to offer virtual reality experiences to residents. LISVH has partnered with [MyndVR](#), a Texas-based startup company that creates new virtual reality scenarios, from calming nature walks to swimming with dolphins, playing sports and even military exercises.

[Read the full story](#)



*Albert Anderson, a Vietnam veteran, enjoys an immersive NASCAR experience.*

## "Faces & Places" Photography Exhibit at Zuccaire Gallery Opens July 19



*James Nachtwey, "El Salvador," 1984*

Presented in conjunction with the Stony Brook Film Festival, "Faces and Places" photographs from the Kellerman Family" features more than 60 color and black-and-white photographs by well-known documentary and fine art photographers. The exhibition opens Thursday, July 19, at the Paul W. Zuccaire Gallery, located on the first floor of Staller Center, with a reception the following evening, Friday, July 20, from 5 pm to 7 pm.

[Read the full story](#)

---

## Upcoming Events

**July 9, 2018**

[Film Screening of Rumble: The Indians Who Rocked The World](#)

**July 24, 2018**

[SBU's Department of Athletics Hosts 9th Annual Free Movie Night: Sing!](#)

**Save the Date: September 22, 2018**

**Contact Information:**  
**Office of Government and Community Relations**

**(631) 632-6302**  
**governmentrelations@stonybrook.edu**



**Stony Brook  
University**

**FAR  
BEYOND**

Stony Brook University/SUNY is an affirmative action, equal opportunity educator and employer. 15120899

STAY CONNECTED:

Follow us on 

SBU Community Relations

Follow us on 

SBU Government Relations

SUBSCRIBE TO NEWSLETTER