

**Report to the University Senate**  
**The Health Sciences Campus**  
**October 5, 2020**

***Stony Brook Medicine***

The COVID-19 inpatient census continues to be very low, ranging from 5-15 patients on any given day. Fortunately, it has been 8 weeks since our last COVID-19 mortality. However, we continue to assume that a second wave is likely to occur late this Fall or Winter, because of the return of K-12 students to the classroom, more people moving indoors, and “mask and distancing fatigue”. Preparations include stockpiling of 90 days of PPE, continuing to increase hospital staff and cross train on hospital units, expansion of testing platforms amongst many other interventions.

We continue to develop our telehealth capacity, having received a \$900K grant to employ a new telehealth platform, and test device-interventions (e.g. pulse oximetry, EKG recording, etc.), i.e. sending a select group of patients home with monitors to “extend” telehealth from patient interviewing to examination.

Dr. Gerald Kelly has been appointed Chief Information Officer for Stony Brook Medicine, after a national search. Dr. Kelly had been serving in the role of Interim CIO for SBM for the past two years.

***Renaissance School of Medicine***

Preparations are underway for a COVID follow-up clinic with seven critical specialties, and to launch a SARS-CoV2 clinical trial, both run by faculty located at the Advanced Specialty Care facility in Commack

Our Cancer Center leadership has been in contact with the leadership of the National Cancer Institute (NCI), who have given us a date of October 2021 to submit our application for a Cancer Center Support Grant (CCSG), with a site-visit in Spring 2022.

Relaunched a renamed *Masters of Science in Epidemiology and Clinical Research* Fall semester 2020, a more rigorously scientific program of study to establish the credentials for clinical researchers. Estimated 1.5-3 years in duration, 33 units, mentoring and research projects established prior to matriculation.

An entire curriculum review is underway to satisfy a concern raised by the accrediting body, Liaison Committee for Medical Education (LCME). The last overall review was held from 2011-2013. A new curricular element, the social determinants of health, has also been introduced this Fall.

For the 9 months of calendar year 2020, faculty members from the RSOM have received nearly 180 new grants, including nearly 50 from Federal agencies (NIH, NSF, DOD, VA) to Drs. Del Poeta x 2, Nachman x 2, Moeller x 2, Pearl, Yin x 2, Caceda x 3, Clouston, van der Velden x 2, Kotov, Lu, Mackow, Tan, Lin x 2, Meliker, Mallipatu x 3, Martin, Kim, Shelly, Moll, Seeliger, Lu, Shevik, Weisenbach, Nemajerova, Frohman,

Cognato, Miller, Enikolopov, Jonas x 2, Parsey, Hannun, Turkman, Bialkowska and Van Snellenberg.

### ***Long Island State Veterans Home***

Newsday ranked all 641 nursing homes in New York State. LISVH at SBM was ranked 15<sup>th</sup> in the State. Congratulations to Fred Sganga and his entire staff.

### ***School of Social Welfare***

Dr. Ijeoma Opara, newest Assistant Professor of Social Welfare, was awarded a multi-year NIH Early Independence Award, which supports early investigators. Her study examines the role of neighborhoods on substance use and mental health outcomes among youth in Paterson, N.J. Dr. Opara is a recipient of the SUNY PRODiG award, and is *the first social worker to ever receive a NIH Early Independence Award.*

Drs. Anna Hayward and Amy Hammock were awarded grants from the Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children. The studies will evaluate the impact of a fatherhood program located in a domestic violence agency, and the outcomes of children and their non-abusing parents who are attending an evidence-based parenting program. The former project is a collaboration with My Sister's Place, a domestic violence center, in Westchester County, and the latter is in collaboration with The Retreat, a Long Island agency working with families and children.

### ***School of Nursing***

Three new faculty have joined the SB SON this Fall:

1. Tenure/tenure track faculty: Dr. Clare Whitney from UPenn - she has her PhD in nursing and a Masters in Bioethics; and
2. Two new clinical faculty: Erin Zazzera - who has experience as the pediatric trauma coordinator; and Rakiya Watts who is joining us part-time in our nurse midwifery program.

The SB SON 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Seminar series is underway - and will continue through the Fall and Spring – Now held via Zoom -

1. August by Carolyn Santora, Alison Copenhaver and Allison Rowe on the nursing administrative response that was mounted at Stony Brook Hospital to care for patients during COVID19;
2. September - Dr. Barbara Mills spoke on the Rapid Response Team;
3. October 6th: - we will have a panel discussion on the Future of Midwifery Education and Clinical Practice moderated by Dr. Heather Hines;
4. October 21, 2020 at 6:00 PM there will be a public engagement event on Vaccine hesitancy given by Dr. Mary Koslasp-Petraco - this event is open to the public.

Leadership is beginning to prepare for the interim report/review due to the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE), the accrediting body for our undergraduate and nurse practitioner programs, due 2021.

Dr. Pat Bruckenthal is co-investigator on a recently awarded NSF grant to Dr. Fan Ye (PI - Electrical and Computer Engineering) on “Smart Aging: Connecting Communities Using Low-Cost and Secure Sensing Technologies”

The SON’s nationally recognized Stellar Award winning Student Nurse Association, composed of undergraduate students, registered voters for the upcoming election. New mannequins for the SON simulation lab will arrive in the next couple of months that will provide critically important upgrades to simulation experiences for our students especially at this time.

### ***School of Dental Medicine***

The School of Dental Medicine continues to increase patient visits at its Dental Care Center, after entering Phase III of its clinic re-entry plan. Many patients have commented that the safety protocol implemented by the SDM has created an environment which makes them feel comfortable to return for continued oral health care services.

All patients at the Dental Care Center are COVID-19 tested in advance of dental procedures. Thus far, only one patient out of 1,416 tested have had a positive result.

### ***School of Health, Technology & Management***

Continues to see above national averages of passing rates on professional exams:

- Athletic training – 100%
- Physician Assistant – 98%
- Paramedic – 100%
- EMT – 99%
- Radiation therapy – 100%
- Occupational Therapy – 100%

Physical Assistant program ranked 1st in New York State and 15th in the United States.

School of Health Technology initiated a seed grant program. The goal of the SHTM Inaugural Innovation Seed Grant Program was to give faculty members a competitive edge in securing SUNY, OVPR, and Foundation funding in the post COVID-19 funding landscape, with the intent to develop larger, more extensive interprofessional research projects to further engage in the Stony Brook University research enterprise. The following were awarded:

*“Interprofessional Training In Telehealth And Serious Illness Patient Management; a Pilot Project”* PI: Nadya Dimitrov

*“Development and Pilot Testing of an Open Access, Modular Bioinformatics Lab for Remote Learning of Graduate, Undergraduate and High School Students”* PI: Hana Fukuto

*“Exploring Telehealth Delivery of Early Intervention Services in Suffolk County in response to COVID-19”* PI: Lisa Muratori

*“An Interdisciplinary Pilot Telerehabilitation Study to Increase Functional Independence after Spinal Cord Injury”* PI: Hannah Mercier

*“Enhancing Health Professional Students’ Communication Skills in an Interprofessional Telehealth Environment”* PI: Lynn Timko-Swaim

### **Program in Public Health**

The SB PPH will be hosting a virtual site visit Oct 28-30<sup>th</sup> with a panel of evaluators representing the Commission for Accreditation of Healthcare Management Education, as our MHA is a candidate for initial accreditation. We offer the only MHA in the SUNY system, competing with Hofstra and Cornell University. Our program is now fully online and at capacity, with a wait-list of 15 students who deferred to Fall 2021.

The Program is completing its 7th year of accreditation for the MPH by the Council for Education in Public Health (CEPH), with a self-study due November 16th and a panel of evaluators coming for a site visit in April 2021. We admitted our largest class ever, reflecting the heightened interest in training in the field of public health in large part due to the pandemic, including a highly successful launch of the MSW/MPH dual degree program (14 students within the first year), and the MD/MPH (10 new students this year). The GRE is no longer required by MPH programs nationally, and we believe this had a significant positive impact on the size and diversity of our applicant pool, and resulting student body.

PPH, together with the RSOM Department of Family, Population and Preventive Medicine faculty and Preventive Medicine Residents and Health Libraries Program (HeLP) nursing/public health/social work students, is partnering with the Suffolk and Nassau County Departments of Health, to launch a flu vaccine promotion campaign, "The Flu and You: What You Need to Do." This campaign will include a live virtual discussion with both Commissioners of Health for Long Island (Gregson Pigott, Lawrence Eisenstein), available in English with real-time translation in Spanish (by Hector Alcalá), on Oct 20th.

The SB PPH welcomed a new faculty member to PPH, Olga Morozova, recruited from Yale SPH, an infectious disease epidemiologist, a real asset to SBM at this time. Dr. Morozova is collaborating with Drs. Sean Clouston and Jaymie Meliker, to work on COVID-19 related trends/modeling for the Suffolk County DOH.