



To the Campus Community

Samuel L. Stanley, Jr., M.D., President to: Torre,F.Jason
Please respond to Carol.Londoiro

07/01/2009 10:18 AM

To: All Faculty, Staff and Students

Today, I am elated to assume my full responsibilities as your new president. I am excited about the challenges ahead, and eager to get started as we build on Stony Brook University's well deserved reputation for excellence.

Ellen and I join in sending sincere best wishes to Dr. Shirley Strum Kenny. Dr. Kenny has been an extraordinary leader and leaves a remarkable legacy. She and her husband, Dr. Robert Kenny, have been admirable stewards, and Stony Brook University is enriched by their commitment. Wherever they travel, the Kennys will stand tall among the most respected advocates of public higher education.

My heartfelt thanks for making the Stanley family so welcomed at Stony Brook. Your enthusiasm and support have been extraordinary. In earlier visits to the campus, I had the opportunity to meet with many of you, and deeply appreciate your thoughtful insights. Faculty, staff, and students have differing perspectives about what is best for the University. I will be listening to all your voices, and it is in listening to each other that we will shape the future. The most important objective is our shared commitment to strengthening this great University as we move forward with a new vision; and rest assured, I intend to be highly visible and accessible in pursuit of our goals.

Stony Brook enjoys a proud history. What has been achieved in a little more than 50 years is remarkable in the annals of great universities. Public higher education today confronts tremendous barriers to success. Unprecedented budget cuts, and the fiscal climate of the state and nation, will test all of us. Yet, I am extremely optimistic. Stony Brook is a strong institution and we will persevere. Given the caliber of our programs and people, I am confident in our ability to meet every challenge. We will work even harder to secure increased research dollars available at the federal level. We will seize the opportunity to forge alliances that serve higher education and the people of New York. Accomplishing our mission will require the best of our campus community, government officials, and state agencies. In carrying our message we will seek the assistance of SUNY Chancellor Nancy Zimpher, and I know you will join in welcoming her to the campus on July 6.

I am thrilled to lead Stony Brook University. Together we will reach new heights. The Stony Brook story will be emboldened, and new pages written by those whose thirst for research and discovery, knowledge and growth is insatiable. I am proud to partner with you in realizing the great potential inherent in our world-class institution.

Samuel L. Stanley, Jr., M.D.
President