

## Position and Candidate Specification



State University of New York at Stony Brook

### Director, Center for Healthy Aging

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*The goal of the CHA is to promote healthy aging and extend both physical and mental well-being through innovative research solutions.*

The Stony Brook Center for Healthy Aging (CHA) unites leading researchers and clinicians who are focused on enhancing the health and wellness of people as they age. Stony Brook is a leading institution in aging research, with research funding from the National Institutes of Health, National Science Foundation and other sources.

The CHA is a research intensive center, focusing on translating basic and applied science to the clinic and promoting innovation to improve the healthcare and well-being of older people. The Center pairs with the Stony Brook Center of Excellence in Alzheimer's Disease as well as one of the country's largest academic geriatric practices, the Age-Friendly Health System (AFHS), which aids in this "bench to bedside" transition by rapidly translating research discoveries into clinical care. Additionally, information on the outcomes of these clinical improvements is generated directly from the health system, which informs the next cycle of research as an iterative process.

The CHA is a Collaboratory, promoting the organization and coordination of the expertise and infrastructure at Stony Brook Medicine (SBM), including Departments and Centers across the Renaissance School of Medicine (RSOM) as well as the schools of Health Professions, Dental Medicine, Nursing, and Social Welfare and the Program in Public Health. Affiliated institutions such as the Northport VA and the Long Island State Veterans Home are also critical collaborators. The CHA's broad areas of research interest include but are not limited to geroscience, Alzheimer's disease and related dementia, aging in place, imaging, falls, and mobility.

With funding initiated by the Stony Brook University Presidential Innovation and Excellence Fund, the CHA fits into the missions of both SBM and SBU of patient care, education, research, and community service. Through its unifying goal, the CHA coordinates aging research on campus, promoting collaborative interactions between basic science and clinical researchers in aging as well as clinicians and policy makers and transforms the care of the aging population in Suffolk County and beyond.

This imperative is now statewide, as on Nov. 4, 2022, Governor Kathy Hochul signed an executive order to create New York State's first-ever Master Plan for Aging to ensure older New Yorkers can live healthy, fulfilling lives. In addition to promoting extramural funding from federal and state agencies, the CHA will provide a focus for philanthropic support, industry collaboration and venture capital investment. A key requirement will be community engagement that will provide input into aging research at the initial stages and will include representation from patients, caregivers, government, community-based organizations and agencies serving older adults in Suffolk County.

## RESOURCES

The RSOM has nationally prominent research programs in:

- Neuroscience (Brain biology and circuits)
- Neurodegenerative disease (Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease)
- Aging-associated biological derangements such as inflammation (inflammaging)
- Metabolism and metabolomics with a focus on lipidomics (relevant to ketones and aging)
- DNA damage
- Imaging (MRI/PET) with a unique ability to generate novel PET tracers that will allow us to image new targets in the brain and body using the RSOM's cyclotron core and the Brookhaven National Laboratory synchrotron.

All five of the Health Sciences Schools and the Program of Public Health have research, clinical and educational programs devoted to aging. These include:

- Geriatric Medicine Fellowship in the Department of Medicine, RSOM
- The Adult-Gerontology Nurse Practitioner Program in the School of Nursing
- A National Science Foundation grant to create in-home sensing technologies for smart aging, which is a collaboration involving the CEAS, RSOM, School of Social Welfare and the School of Nursing.

Clinically, SBM has broad strengths in providing care for aging patients and innovative clinical research in aging:

- The RSOM has a Center of Excellence for Alzheimer's Disease supported by New York State.
- Stony Brook University Hospital pioneered the development of geriatric hospitalist medicine as a specialty and has been designated by the Institute for Healthcare Improvement as an age-friendly health system that includes unique features such as a geriatric emergency department.
- The World Trade Center Health and Wellness Program based at SBM now includes a cohort of patients who are being studied for Alzheimer's disease-related dementia.
- The SBU campus houses the Long Island State Veterans Home, which provides residential and day care to more than 350 aging veterans and serves as an important teaching site for the geriatrics fellowship.
- The affiliated Northport VA Medical Center has both an acute care hospital and skilled nursing facility on one campus.
- New state of the art Clinical Trials Unit housed at Commack.

## FINANCIAL AND OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

- In the 2023-2024 academic year, \$920k was awarded through 14 pilot project grants to CHA researchers
- In the 2024-2025 academic year, the Center for Healthy Aging has experienced significant growth
  - Initiated a collaboration with Jefferson's Ferry Senior Living Community
  - Started a new seminar series with Stony Brook's Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI)
  - CHA pilot awardees published 10 papers in high impact journals, with 5 in preparation, and 25 presentations given on topics related to awardees' pilot research
  - CHA pilot awardees secured 15 grants (including 7 R01s and 3 R21s), representing over **\$22 million** from external foundations including the National Institute on Aging

The Renaissance School of Medicine (RSOM) at Stony Brook is seeking a visionary leader to serve as the Director of the Center for Healthy Aging, a distinctive opportunity to shape the future of aging science, education, and care at one of the nation's leading public research universities.

This role offers the chance to lead a dynamic, multidisciplinary Center that is already deeply embedded in a robust ecosystem of aging-related research, clinical excellence, and community engagement. The Director will serve as both scientific and administrative lead, guiding strategic planning for healthy aging, fostering collaborative research across departments and institutions, and expanding educational initiatives for students, faculty, healthcare professionals, and the broader community. The Director will play a pivotal role in driving research and translating research and education into clinical partnerships, policy innovation, and best practices that improve the lives of older adults across Long Island and the region.

The candidate selected will have a faculty appointment in an RSOM department based on their area of expertise.

## KEY RELATIONSHIPS

**Reports to** Dean, Renaissance School of Medicine  
EVP, Stony Brook Medicine

**Direct reports** CHA Administrator

**Other key relationships** CHA Management Committee  
CHA faculty

## KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

### Serve as Scientific and Administrative Director

- Oversee CHA budget, funding priorities, and grants management.
- Interface with LINCATS (Long Island Network for Clinical and Translational Sciences) to support researchers in aging in obtaining NIH/NIA funding.
- Conduct meetings of Internal, External, and Community CHA Advisory Boards.
- Plan annual CHA research symposiums and bimonthly seminars to promote transdisciplinary research.
- Cultivate collaborative relationships across Stony Brook University and its healthcare system including the Northport DVAMC and Long Island State Veterans Home.
- Supervise CHA administrative staff.
- Enhance partnerships through community outreach to diverse older adult populations.

### **Engage in Strategic Planning**

- Increase federal, state, and foundation funding for geriatric research at Stony Brook with long term goals of attaining NIA designation as an Alzheimer's Disease Research Center, a Claude D. Pepper Center, and/or a Roybal Center for Translational Research on Aging.
- Develop novel areas of inquiry in healthy aging research.
- Promote inter-institutional research collaborations in clinical, translational, and basic research.
- Position the institution for competitive GWEP applications.

### **Conduct Collaborative Research**

- Obtain and maintain personal external funding.
- Develop multidisciplinary working groups to successfully compete for extramural funding.
- Disseminate findings through presentations and publications in peer-reviewed journals.

### **Mentor Trainees and Junior Faculty**

- Link junior faculty with established aging researchers and provide direct mentoring to faculty at all levels.
- Engage both graduate and undergraduate students in aging research opportunities.

### **Contribute to the Clinical and Teaching Mission**

The Director of the Center for Healthy Aging will be a dynamic and visionary leader with a demonstrated track record of excellence across research, interdisciplinary collaboration, program development, grant funding, education, faculty recruitment and development, and community engagement. This is a rare opportunity to lead a Center that is already positioned at the forefront of aging innovation, with strong institutional support and a rich foundation of clinical and research excellence.

The ideal candidate will bring a bold and entrepreneurial spirit, capable of advancing a compelling vision for healthy aging that builds upon Stony Brook's nationally recognized strengths. They will be adept at fostering cross-sector partnerships, catalyzing innovative research, and expanding educational and clinical programs that serve diverse aging populations across the region.

This critical leadership role requires someone who can elevate the Center's visibility and impact—growing its capacity, deepening its scholarly contributions, and translating research into practice and policy. The Director will be a passionate advocate for aging-related priorities, with the ability to inspire teams, attract talent, and drive forward a collaborative agenda that enhances care, education, and discovery.

This position is based on campus in Stony Brook, NY.

## IDEAL EXPERIENCE

### Accomplished Scholar in healthy aging research and/or related disciplines

- Strong track record of independent extramural funding and peer-reviewed publications
- Experience in leading federally funded research projects as Principal investigator or Program Director.
- Experience in policy development and patient advocacy ideal

### Experienced Builder and Leader

- Commitment to partnerships in clinical care, research, and education
- Familiarity building and leading multidisciplinary research teams

### Strong track record for mentoring faculty at all stages of career development

- Mentorship to include advancing research activities, securing necessary funding sources as well as leadership development

### M.D., Ph.D., or M.D./Ph.D.

Ability to obtain NYS License if M.D. or other clinical provider as appropriate

## **CRITICAL LEADERSHIP CAPABILITIES**

### **Leading People**

- Identifies and leverages individual strengths and potential within the team
- Engages the team in discussions around the longer-term strategy and how they can contribute
- Delegates significant responsibilities and decision-making authority to team members, providing guidance
- Gives team members ownership within their areas of responsibility, setting clear expectations
- Enables team success by removing barriers and providing resources
- Invites the team to recommend ways to solve problems, discuss challenging issues, or generate new ideas

### **Collaborating and Influencing**

- Identifies all necessary stakeholders and connects with them to gain support or agreement
- Negotiates with a genuine give-and-take approach that takes all parties' perspectives into account
- Takes advantage of opportunities to build strategic relationships to achieve a specific outcome
- Engages others in open dialogue and adapts own influence approach to different stakeholders in ways that address their interests or concerns
- Anticipates emerging or potential conflicts among all stakeholders and takes steps to pre-empt them

### **Acting Strategically**

- Propose changes to the Center on Aging's vision and strategy
- Bring new thinking that challenges assumptions and conventional wisdom
- Contribute to the development of a health aging strategy and justify it with market insight
- Describe the trends and evolution of the healthy aging landscape over a three-year+ environment

## **OTHER PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS**

- Active listener and effective communicator
- High integrity, collaborative, trustworthy
- High energy and collaborative mindset
- Optimistic and courageous

## THE SEARCH PROCESS

Stony Brook University is eager to receive input that will help it build a pool of talented individuals to consider for this important leadership opportunity. To that end, the Search Committee welcomes comments, inquiries, applications, and nominations, which may be submitted to Sarah Ekstrom via the confidential search mailbox: [sekstrom@SpencerStuart.com](mailto:sekstrom@SpencerStuart.com).

## EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY STATEMENT

Stony Brook University is committed to excellence in diversity and creating an inclusive learning and working environment. All qualified applicants will receive consideration without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, pregnancy, familial status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, and all other protected classes under federal or state laws.

If you need a disability-related accommodation, please get in touch with the Office of Equity and Access at (631) 632-6280.



Stony Brook University is a flagship of the State University of New York (SUNY) system and is the top public University in New York State. With nearly 26,000 students, more than 2,900 faculty members, over 200,000 alumni, a premier academic healthcare system, and 18 NCAA Division I athletic programs, Stony Brook is a distinguished center of innovation dedicated to addressing the world's biggest challenges. Stony Brook is internationally recognized for its research and medical programs and is a member of the prestigious Association of American Universities (AAU). In 2024, *U.S. News & World Report* ranked Stony Brook as the #58 overall university and #26 among public universities.

Stony Brook is located approximately one hour east of Manhattan on Long Island's beautiful North Shore. Situated on 1,454 acres, the campus encompasses 12 schools and colleges; a Research and Development Park; a host of centers and institutes that range in focus from education, arts and culture to STEM, business and medicine; and world-class athletics facilities, including a 12,300-seat athletics stadium and a 4,000-seat arena. The University also includes Stony Brook Medicine, Long Island's premier academic health system encompassing five health sciences schools, four hospitals, 200 community-based healthcare settings, and a growing number of clinical affiliations. Stony Brook University has an additional teaching and research campus in Southampton, New York, which is home to graduate arts programs, health sciences professional programs and the Marine Sciences Center. Since 1998, Stony Brook, in partnership with Battelle, has managed Brookhaven National Laboratory, one of only 17 Department of Energy national labs, with many faculty holding joint appointments.

Stony Brook is nationally recognized for academic excellence and promoting student social mobility with a proud history of undergraduate student success. The University's distinguished faculty have earned esteemed awards such as the Nobel Prize, Pulitzer Prize, Indianapolis Prize for animal conservation, Abel Prize, and the Breakthrough Prize in Mathematics. In 2023, Stony Brook was named the anchor institution for The New York Climate Exchange, a historic partnership to build an international climate solutions center on Governors Island in New York City.

Stony Brook's growing endowment, nearing \$1 billion, will propel the University's efforts in education, research, and service. Since the historic \$500 million Simons Infinity Investment was announced in June 2023, 10 endowed chairs and professorships, one endowed dean, and 24 new endowed scholarships and fellowships have been established.

### Mission

The University has a five-part mission:

- To provide comprehensive undergraduate, graduate, and professional education of the highest quality.
- To carry out research and intellectual endeavors of the highest international standards that advance knowledge and have immediate or long-range practical significance.
- To provide leadership for economic growth, technology, and culture for neighboring communities and the wider geographic region.
- To provide state-of-the-art innovative healthcare while serving as a resource to a regional healthcare network and the traditionally underserved.
- To fulfill these objectives while celebrating diversity and positioning the University in the global community.

### **Commitment to Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility**

Stony Brook values diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility (DEIA). The University is recognized for promoting social mobility and economic growth for students. A recent Stanford study highlighted Stony Brook's success in helping low-income students advance, outperforming many better-funded public and private universities.

U.S. News & World Report 2024 Best Colleges also ranks Stony Brook as #12 among national universities in social mobility. The University outperforms the national graduation rates of four-year institutions regardless of race or ethnicity. Stony Brook graduates have less debt than the national average of college graduates, and 95% of recent graduates are either employed or continuing their education. In 2024, U.S. News & World Report ranked Stony Brook as a top 30 public institution and the #1 public university in New York State.

### **Economic Impact**

As Long Island's largest single-site employer, the University has over 15,000 full- and part-time employees, including more than 2,900 faculty. Stony Brook's 2023-24 operating budget is nearly \$4 billion, with monies generated from a variety of sources, including academic and research funds, hospital revenue, tuition, state support, and philanthropy.

### **Philanthropic Investment**

Thanks to the transformative 2023 gift of \$500M in unrestricted endowment funds by the Simons Foundation – the largest-ever such gift to any U.S. university – Stony Brook's endowment is approximately \$750 million and will grow toward \$1 billion when matching gifts triggered by the Simons donation arrive. The growing endowment will propel the University's efforts in education, research, and service.

### **Forward Momentum**

Beyond the Simons Foundation gift and the matching gifts from New York State and other donors that it triggered, 2023 was an extraordinary year for the University. Among other notable accomplishments, Stony Brook was named the anchor institution in the successful bid to develop Governors Island as a hub for climate and resilience research and discovery. This success comes after New York Governor Kathy Hochul named Stony Brook as one of two flagship universities in the SUNY system. This designation will provide \$100 million in state funding for new facilities, research collaborations and innovative research programs.

### **The SUNY System**

The State University of New York (SUNY) is a system of public institutions of higher education in New York. With 64 college and university campuses located within 30 miles of every home, school, and business in the state, SUNY is the nation's largest comprehensive system of public higher education. It serves more than 1.3 million students annually, employs more than 90,000 faculty and staff, and connects more than three million alumni around the world. It spends \$1.6 billion annually on research and grants about 96,000 degrees each year. Its annual budget is just \$14 billion.

SUNY was established in 1948 through legislative implementation of recommendations made by the Temporary Commission on the Need for a State University. SUNY's administrative offices are in Albany, the state's capital, with satellite offices in Manhattan and Washington, D.C.

Dr. John B. King, Jr. joined The State University of New York as its 15th Chancellor in December 2020. Before being appointed SUNY Chancellor, King served as president of The Education Trust, a national civil rights nonprofit, and Professor of the Practice at the University of Maryland College Park. Prior to this, Chancellor King served in President Barack Obama's cabinet as the 10th U.S. Secretary of Education. His service in Washington, D.C. followed Chancellor King's tenure as New York State's first African American and first Puerto Rican Education Commissioner, a role in which he oversaw all elementary and secondary schools, as well as public, independent, and proprietary colleges and universities, professional licensure, libraries, museums, and numerous other educational institutions.

### **Award-Winning Faculty**

Stony Brook faculty are known for their excellence in outstanding research, scholarship and innovation. Faculty members are recipients of many national and international prestigious awards for their research, creative activity and teaching. Notable accomplishments and recognitions earned by current Stony Brook University faculty and associated faculty include:

- Nobel Prize (four recipients\*)
- Fields Medal (two recipients)
- Pulitzer Prize winners (two recipients)
- Abel Prize (two recipients)
- Breakthrough Prize (six recipients for Physics, one recipient for Mathematics)
- MacArthur Foundation Prize (three recipients)
- Royal Society (one fellow)
- Wolf Prize Mathematics (three recipients)
- American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) (52 fellows)
- American Academy of Arts and Sciences (14 members)
- National Academy of Inventors (10 fellows, three senior members)
- National Inventors Hall of Fame (one inductee)
- National Academy of Engineering (one member)
- National Academy of Medicine (two members)
- National Academy of Sciences (12 members)
- National Medal of Science (four recipients)
- National Medal of Technology and Innovation (one recipient)

*\*Faculty members at Stony Brook University's School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences have been recognized for their contributions to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), which was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize along with former Vice President Al Gore "for their efforts to build up and disseminate greater knowledge about man-made climate change, and to lay the foundations for the measures that are needed to counteract such change."*

### **Stony Brook Medicine**

Stony Brook Medicine is Long Island's premier academic healthcare system, part of Stony Brook University. Stony Brook Medicine comprises all of the healthcare-related entities within the University, including Stony Brook University Hospital, Stony Brook Children's Hospital, Stony Brook Southampton Hospital, Stony Brook Eastern Long Island Hospital, Schools of Dental Medicine, Health Professions, the Renaissance School of Medicine, Nursing and the School of Social Welfare, Long Island State Veterans Home, the Institute of Chemical Biology and Drug Discovery, various outpatient faculty practice sites as well as Stony Brook Community

Medicine, the network of affiliated community practices. Stony Brook Medicine focuses on research, clinical care, education, and service in health sciences. Its mission is to deliver the best patient care through innovation and excellence in medicine. Stony Brook Medicine will continue to strive for excellence as:

- A world-class institution recognized for outstanding, compassionate patient care, biomedical research and healthcare education.
- The first choice of patients for their care and the care of their families.
- An academic medical center that attracts outstanding educators, researchers, and students and is one of the top-ranked institutions for scientific research and training.

Stony Brook Medicine is also the home of groundbreaking technologies and discoveries such as 3-D virtual colonoscopy, the cause of Lyme disease, ReoPro (a medication recommended for cardiac angioplasty), Periostat (widely used for periodontal disease) and Xiaflex to treat Dupuytren's disease (a debilitating hand disorder).

### **Research Funding**

With more than 3,000 faculty, staff, graduate students and postdoctoral trainees engaged in research and more than 2,000 sponsored awards, Stony Brook's Research and Development (R&D) expenditures were nearly \$325 million, including \$192 million of federal-sponsored R&D expenditures, as reported in the University's 2022-2023 NSF HERD data.

Of the \$192 million in federal funding, nearly 50% was from HHS, 23% from NSF, 12% from DOE, 9% from DOD and 2% from NASA. Roughly 5% of Stony Brook's externally sponsored research funding last year, or nearly \$11 million, came from industry sponsors and partners. Stony Brook's annual research expenditures have grown by over 50% since 2014.

### **Research Centers**

Stony Brook is home to numerous research centers and institutes, including the Center for Biotechnology, the Center for Frontiers in Nuclear Science, the C.N. Yang Institute for Theoretical Physics, the Turkana Basin Institute, the Cancer Center, the Centers for Molecular Medicine, the Laufer Center, the Institute for Chemical Biology and Drug Discovery, Institute for Discovery and Innovation in Medical Engineering, Institute for Advanced Computational Science, Centre ValBio and Long Island Network for Clinical and Translational Science. In addition, there are numerous large federally funded centers, including two DOE-funded Energy Frontiers Research Centers (EFRC), the CDC/NIOSH-funded World Trade Center Wellness Program, and as lead institution for the NSF-funded large facilities grant, the U.S. collaboration for the ATLAS experiment at the Large Hadron Collider. Among Stony Brook faculty are approximately 50 joint appointments with Brookhaven National Laboratory, where many faculty and students are involved in research activities and access unique user facilities.

### **Research and Development Park**

The Stony Brook Research and Development Park (R&D Park) has been designed as a community of innovators who build solutions to society's most pressing problems, leveraging Stony Brook's research strengths in three convergent areas: energy, information technology and biomedical technology. The R&D Park is home to two New York State-funded Centers of Excellence in Wireless and Information Technology (CEWIT) and Advanced Energy Research and Technology Center (AERTC). State-of-the-art facilities provide resources to researchers, entrepreneurs and users from academic, corporate and government sectors. The R&D Park and other research facilities across the campus continue to attract and retain preeminent faculty and outstanding students, and to

produce cutting-edge research and creative activities that will secure Stony Brook's place among the very best research universities.

### Research Initiatives

Over the past few years, Stony Brook's "Tiger Teams" initiative has identified priority areas to focus in developing larger-scale research programs as well as services and infrastructure necessary to develop the research enterprise. The initiative has brought new clarity to the investments Stony Brook can make in research to fully leverage its impressive disciplinary breadth. Additionally, Stony Brook's Presidential Innovation and Excellence (PIE) Fund was created to underwrite potentially transformative initiatives in or across disciplines or in infrastructure and core facilities. For instance, PIE funding contributed to the development of Stony Brook's winning proposal to develop Governors Island as a hub for climate research, as well as the Center for Distributed Quantum Processing, the Center for Healthy Aging and interdisciplinary AI.