



Stony Brook School of Nursing



THE BRIDGE REPORT

Our Vital Signs: A Report on Growth
and Community Engagement

January 2025 - August 2025





TABLE OF CONTENTS

BY THE NUMBERS

DARE TO INSPIRE

Research Faculty Honors
Faculty Highlights

DARE TO SUCCEED

Student Honors

DARE TO LOOK FORWARD

SUNY Regional Simulation Center

DARE TO CONNECT

SON Community Building

DARE TO FORGE A LEGACY

Alumni Highlights

2

4

6

8

10

12

14

MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

Dear Students, Faculty, Alumni, and Friends,

It is with great pride and joy that I welcome you to this year's Bridge Report for the Stony Brook University School of Nursing. This report is more than a record of achievements—it is a celebration of the courage, compassion, and determination that define our community. Together, we continue to dare—to inspire, to succeed, to look forward, to connect, and to forge a legacy.

Dare to Inspire: Our faculty continue to lead groundbreaking research and earn distinguished honors, advancing nursing science and elevating the reputation of our school. Their dedication inspires both peers and students, reminding us of the transformative power of knowledge. Their work lights the way for future discoveries and inspires us all to dream bigger.

Dare to Succeed: Our students have demonstrated remarkable resilience and excellence, earning honors that reflect their commitment to the profession. Their success is a testament to the strength of our academic programs and the mentorship they receive. Their success is a promise of the bright future of nursing.

Dare to Look Forward: We are planning for our SUNY Regional Simulation (NEXUS: Nursing Excellence Using Simulation) Center, charting new paths in experiential learning. We are poised to launch the NEXUS Simulation Center by opening doors to new possibilities in experiential learning. This innovative space will ensure our students are prepared to meet tomorrow's challenges with confidence and skill.

Dare to Connect: Community is at the heart of nursing. Through outreach, partnerships, and shared initiatives, we strengthen bonds that enrich our school and the communities we serve.

Dare to Forge a Legacy: Our alumni continue to make an impact across the globe, carrying forward the values of compassion, leadership, and excellence. Their legacy inspires future generations to follow in their footsteps.

This Bridge Report reflects not only what we have accomplished, but also the spirit that drives us forward. I invite each of you to stay engaged—share your stories, mentor a student, join us at upcoming events, and continue to be part of the School of Nursing's vibrant fabric. Together, we will keep daring, keep caring, and keep shaping the future of healthcare.

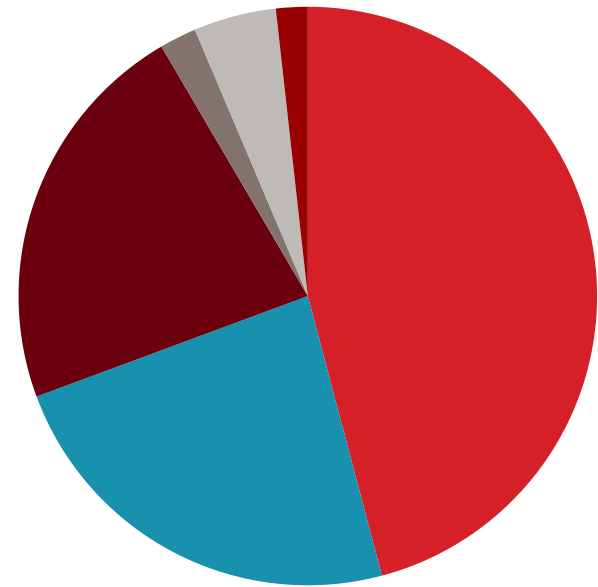
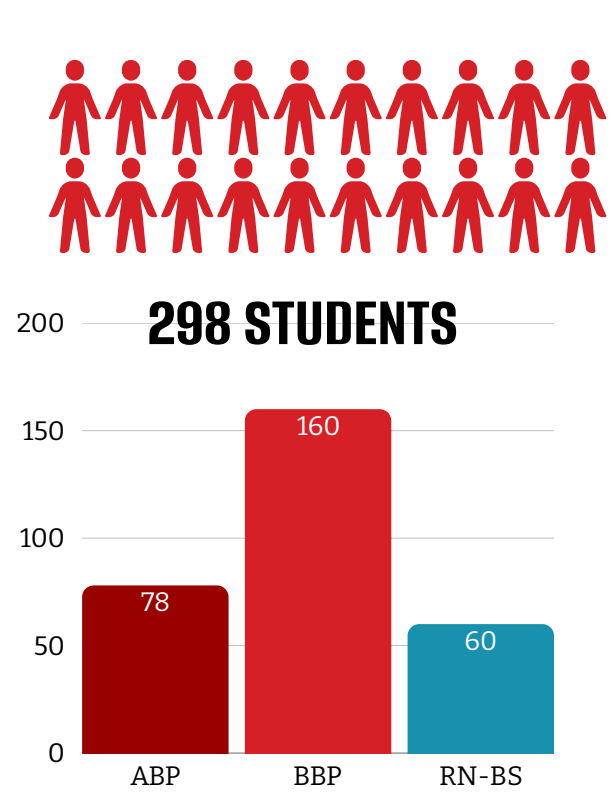
With warmth and gratitude,

Patricia Bruckenthal
Dean, School of Nursing

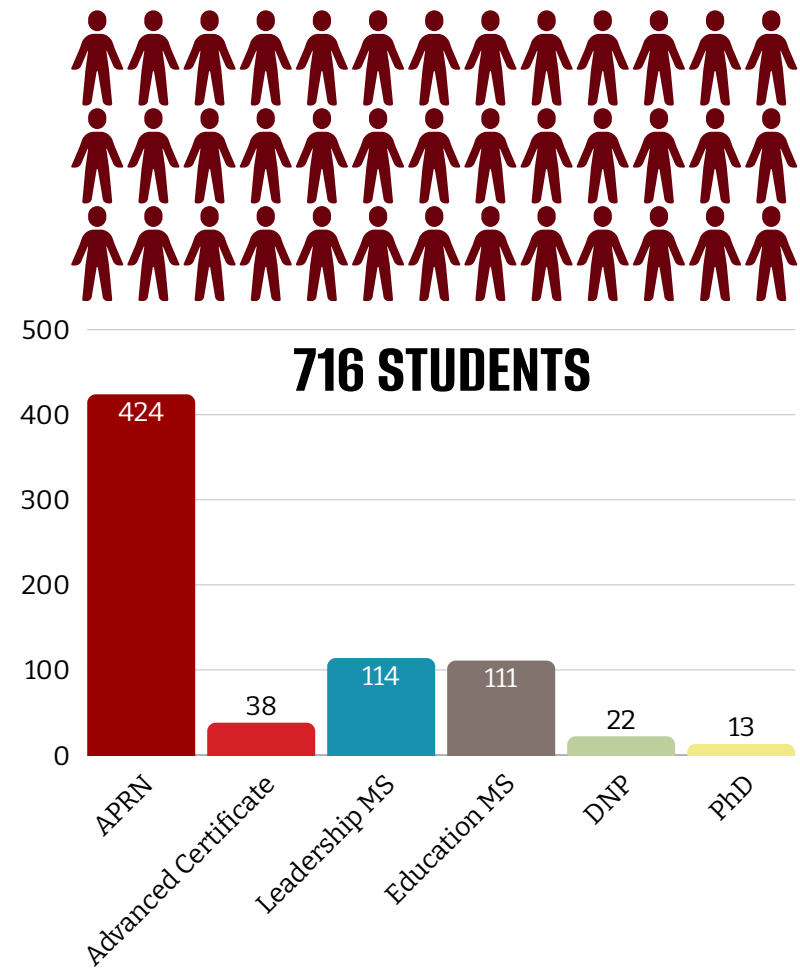


BY THE NUMBERS

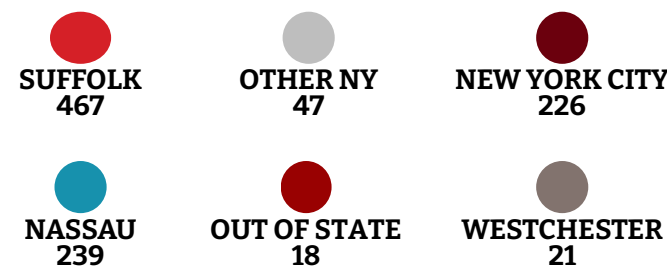
UNDERGRADUATE



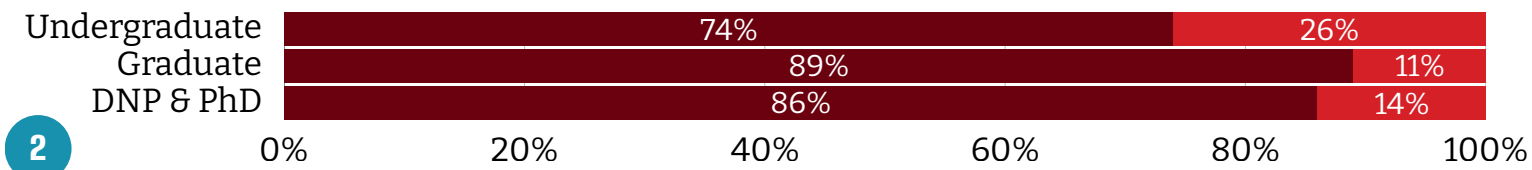
GRADUATE & DOCTORAL



GEOGRAPHIC REGIONS FOR FALL 2025 ENROLLEES



Female Male



Preparing the Next Generation of Nurse Leaders

Recognizing that future healthcare requires a comprehensive understanding of the social determinants of health (SDOH), health equity and health outcomes, the SON is dedicated to fostering a strengthened and diversified nursing workforce.

We are focused on preparing nurses to be leaders who can champion care and promote the health of individuals and communities by integrating public health, healthcare, social services, and policies to achieve health equity. Our strategy is fully aligned with national imperatives, including the National Institute of Nursing Research's vision to optimize health and advance health equity.

Through leadership, innovative curriculum, and impactful scholarship, the Stony Brook School of Nursing is dedicated to developing the next generation of nurse leaders who will address the pressing health challenges of our time.

[Click here to read the full report.](#)

Resource Stewardship

Operational excellence will be achieved by focusing on increasing net revenue, grants, and philanthropy funding through active engagement with alumni, donors, and the external community to advance Stony Brook SON's reputation and fiscal stability.

Community Research and Partnerships

Stony Brook SON will advance alignment with SBM strategic vision and generative partner affiliations.

Impactful Research

Stony Brook School of Nursing will cultivate a collaborative environment that supports research in areas that benefit health and society from an integrative perspective.

Transformative Education

Stony Brook SON will optimize our academic learning environment through innovative programming, strategic partnerships, and digital applications.

Workforce and Culture

Cultivating an inclusive culture of engagement and belonging will attract and retain students/faculty/staff/alumni/communities of interest and engage diverse perspectives.

DARE TO INSPIRE

Research Faculty Honors



CLARE WHITNEY

PhD, MBE, RN
Assistant Professor

Assistant Professor [Clare Whitney, PhD, MBE, RN](#), was selected as a 2025 Macy Faculty Scholar in early March. One of five educators nationwide to make up the distinguished class of 2025, Dr. Whitney becomes Stony Brook's first-ever Macy Faculty Scholar.

The program identifies and develops early-career nursing and medicine educators to become more effective leaders locally and nationally. Scholars have access to professional development programs, formal mentoring, educational opportunities, and Macy grantees.

Dr. Whitney's work is focused on reducing burnout and improving the well-being of healthcare professionals. She established an interdisciplinary research program that addresses pressing relational and ethical issues for the healthcare workforce.

Dr. Whitney is an affiliated faculty member in the Center for Medical Humanities, Compassionate Care, and Bioethics in the Renaissance School of Medicine at Stony Brook University.



ANN-MARGARET NAVARRA

PHD, CPNP, FAAN
Associate Professor
Associate Dean, Nursing Research and Innovation

Associate Dean for Nursing Research and Innovation [Ann-Margaret Navarra, PhD, CPNP, FAAN](#), was one of 10 innovators selected for the first-ever Nursing Science Incubator for Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) Solutions (N-SISS) Fellowship at Johns Hopkins School of Nursing's Institute for Policy Solutions (IPS).

This highly competitive fellowship recognizes Dr. Navarra's outstanding qualifications, innovative research, and commitment to addressing healthcare inequities in the U.S. through the lens of SDOH.

A leader in nursing science, Dr. Navarra's research focuses on HIV/AIDS, pediatrics, chronic disease, and underserved populations. In the 1990s, she was a trailblazer in advanced practice pediatric nursing, spearheading care initiatives for youth living with HIV/AIDS.

Her N-SISS research will focus on increasing viral load suppression and improving other health outcomes among Latino adolescents and young adults living with HIV.



KENNETH FAULKNER

PhD, RN, ANP, FHSA
Clinical Associate Professor
Dir., Accelerated/Basic Baccalaureate Programs

Clinical Associate Professor [Kenneth Faulkner, PhD, RN, ANP, FHSA](#), and international colleagues published groundbreaking research addressing frailty syndrome in heart failure patients on January 21, 2025.

The paper proposes innovative strategies for integrating frailty interventions into existing heart failure care models. Emphasizing a tailored approach rooted in the nursing process, the recommendations begin with comprehensive assessments to determine individual needs. Frailty, a complex condition impacting multiple physiological systems, significantly affects outcomes.

Dr. Faulkner's work highlights the critical role of cognitive interventions in enhancing adherence to other essential therapies, such as exercise and dietary adjustments.

These interventions not only improve frailty but also demonstrate the potential to alleviate heart failure symptoms. This research represents a significant step towards optimizing care and enhancing the quality of life for patients with heart failure.

DARE TO INSPIRE

Faculty Honors and Highlights

TRACY TIMBOLI

MS, RN
Clinical Instructor

Clinical Instructor [Tracy Trimboli, MS, RN](#), was recognized for her student-centered approach and commitment to educational excellence and experiential training with an Excellence in Teaching Award by the Stony Brook University [Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching \(CELT\)](#) in August.

JANET GALICZEWSKI

DNP, MSN, ANP, RN, CCRN
Clinical Associate Professor
Chair, Dept. of Undergraduate Studies

Clinical Associate Professor [Janet Galiczewski, DNP, MSN, ANP, RN, CCRN](#), was the recipient of the 2025 Leader of Leaders Award at the 73rd Annual [National Student Nurses Association of New York \(NSNANY\) Convention](#) on Saturday, February 15, 2025.

ERIN ZAZZERA

MPH, RN
Clinical Associate Professor

Clinical Associate Professor [Erin Zazzera, MPH, RN](#), was chosen for the second annual cohort of the Health Equity Influencers Program (HEIP). Organized by the Mercy University School of Nursing, this program is designed for visionary nurse educators who want to lead and influence the future of nursing education.

TARA HARTWELL

MS, RN, CMSRN
Clinical Instructor

Clinical Instructor Tara Hartwell, MS, RN, CMSRN, received the School of Nursing Faculty Award for her tireless work and commitment at the 2025 Stony Brook Medicine Florence Nightingale Awards Ceremony in May.



DEBRA GIUGLIANO

RN, PhD CPNP, CPON
Clinical Assistant Professor

Clinical Assistant Professor [Debra Giugliano, RN, PhD, CPNP, CPON](#), was named one of 11 fellows of the inaugural [SUNY Nursing Simulation Fellowship](#) for 2024-2025.

Launched by SUNY Chancellor John B. King Jr., this fellowship is part of a statewide initiative to enhance nursing education through simulation-based learning. Through this fellowship, she will contribute to the SUNY-wide Simulation Shared Resource Library, advancing healthcare education in New York.

Dr. Giugliano founded the School Intervention and Reentry Program at Stony Brook Children's Hospital, helping young patients transition back to school.



TRACY CAVANAUGH

MS, RN
Clinical Assistant Professor
Director, AGACNP Program

Clinical Instructor [Tracy Cavanaugh, MS, RN](#), was one of six nurses nationwide selected for the fourth cohort of [Jonas-Flynn Oncology Nurse DNP Scholars](#) program in August.

The joint Jonas Nursing and Flynn Foundation scholarship program recognizes and supports doctoral nursing students seeking to improve healthcare for cancer patients. Jonas-Flynn scholarships have awarded financial support of \$550,000 to date.

Professor Cavanaugh is the [adult-gerontology acute care nurse practitioner](#) program director and a clinical instructor of graduate studies and advanced practice nursing at the Stony Brook University School of Nursing. Additionally, she works as an adult gerontological acute care nurse practitioner at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center and is pursuing a [DNP degree](#) in the care of populations track at Quinnipiac University.



DARE TO SUCCEED

Student Honors



SBU GRADUATES FIRST LISVH SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM COHORT

The Long Island State Veterans Home (LISVH) Nursing Scholarship Program's [first-ever cohort graduated](#) from the Stony Brook University School of Nursing in May.

Bryanna Foster, Keith Krupa, Fuxia Ma, Krista Romano, and Kristi Rubino-Rosales earned Bachelor of Science degrees through Stony Brook's [Registered Nurse Baccalaureate Program \(RNBP\)](#) while working full- or part-time at the LISVH.

The Nursing Scholarship Program recruits eligible Suffolk County Community College (SCCC) graduates to work at the LISVH while enrolled in the RNBP at no additional cost to the student.

Those enrolled agree to a three-year contract with LISVH, the first two of which coincide with their time in the RNBP. The Class of 2025 will spend at least one year post-graduation working as registered professional nurses.



SCHOOL OF NURSING HONORED AT NSNANY CONVENTION

Stony Brook Student Nurses' Association (SBSNA) members were recognized at the 73rd Annual [National Student Nurses Association of New York \(NSNANY\) Convention](#) in February.

Among the student award recipients were Avary Kwai (Secretary's Award for Excellence), Kathryn D'Alessandri (Treasurer for a Difference Award), Jacqueline Stapelkamp (Honorary Nursing Student Advocacy Award), and Musa Almiggabber (NSANYS Creative Expression Award).

Additionally, Temi Taiwo won the Caring Hands Scholarship, Josephina Miller won the Jennifer Whalen Scholarship for Excellence, and the SBSNA took home the Wellness Award.

Victoria Zerbo, Avary Kwai, and Allie Yeung—all juniors in the Stony Brook School of Nursing [Basic Baccalaureate Program](#)—were elected to the 2025-2026 State Board of Directors as STAT editor, nominations and elections co-chair, and communications director, respectively.



SIGMA THETA TAU KAPPA GAMMA CHAPTER AWARD

Stony Brook's Sigma Theta Tau Kappa Gamma Chapter was honored with the North America Region 14 Sigma Chapter Excellence Award, recognizing its outstanding community service.

This prestigious award celebrates the chapter's unwavering dedication and impactful initiatives. Thanks to the tireless efforts of the board and its members, Sigma Kappa Gamma has demonstrated a profound commitment to positive change.

Their countless endeavors have made a significant difference in the community, reflecting the chapter's desire to serve with excellence.

The Stony Brook University School of Nursing proudly acknowledges their achievement and dedication to community well-being.

DARE TO LOOK FORWARD

SUNY Regional Simulation Center

STONY BROOK NAMED SUNY REGIONAL NURSING SIMULATION CENTER

The Stony Brook University School of Nursing has been selected as a State University of New York (SUNY) Regional Nursing Simulation Center, one of only three in New York State. [Governor Kathy Hochul announced the selected centers in May](#), which will involve an overall \$62 million investment to bolster nursing training at various levels throughout the state.

Stony Brook will receive \$10 million from SUNY, with matching university funds of \$10.5 million. The total of \$20.5 million will be used to create a new simulation center at Stony Brook, which will incorporate the latest simulation technologies to train more nursing students and enhance the overall nursing education experience.

The selected campuses include the University of Buffalo, named the SUNY System-Wide Nursing Simulation Center of Excellence, and SUNY Canton and Stony Brook as the regional centers. Each center will provide high-quality, hands-on training for some of the most needed clinical practice areas in health care, such as labor and delivery, high acuity cases, and community health.

According to the Governor's office, with their investments, each campus has committed to significant prelicensure nursing program enrollment growth, leveraging the legislation Governor Hochul signed in May of 2023, permitting nursing students to complete up to one-third of their clinical training through high-quality simulation experiences.

The new regional nursing simulation center at Stony Brook will support a 19 percent increase in prelicensure (baccalaureate) nursing enrollment in the first year post-project completion. There is a projected 27 percent increase over the next five years.

According to the plan, Stony Brook will significantly expand its simulation space footprint to enhance in-person nursing education. The center will leverage advanced simulcast software technology to provide remote learning opportunities across Long Island.



DARE TO CONNECT

Community Events



At the Stony Brook School of Nursing, we believe that true education extends beyond the classroom. The end of the 2025 calendar year was defined by community and connection, reinforced by a diverse range of events.

We championed intellectual growth and celebrated excellence at our annual Research Day, which provided a platform for student and faculty scholarship. At our annual [Award Ceremony and Honor Society Induction](#), we formally recognized the outstanding accomplishments of our students and alumni.

Our commitment to service and community was evident across multiple initiatives: We provided vital public health support through the successful organization of the Community Flu Pod and coordinated successful community drives. We facilitated an insightful discussion with [NY Assemblywoman Rebecca Kassay](#) to help prepare future policy leaders. We even sat down with a group of local high school journalism students to discuss the school's mission and goals, hoping our impact would reach beyond campus.

Finally, we fostered team spirit and collaboration through activities including the student-led Winter Olympics, and promoted social and physical wellness through our Walk With a Professor series and Spring Into Action Step Challenge.

These events collectively highlighted the supportive culture and professional excellence that defines the Stony Brook School of Nursing community.



DARE TO FORGE A LEGACY

Alumni Highlights



KRISTAN PROBECK NAMED NPALI NURSE PRACTITIONER OF THE YEAR

School of Nursing double alumna Kristan Probeck, MS, RN, BC-CV, ANP-C, was named [Nurse Practitioner \(NP\) of the Year for Region 7](#) by the Nurse Practitioner Association of Long Island (NPALI) in July.

An expert in her field, Ms. Probeck helped develop the Pulmonary Embolism Response Team at Stony Brook. She's spoken about VTE standards and research at national conferences, presented award-winning posters at vascular conferences, and authored peer-reviewed journal articles.

Ms. Probeck joined Stony Brook Surgery's vascular division in 2013 as a venous thromboembolism (VTE) nurse practitioner. She began her career as a certified nursing assistant before obtaining her registered nurse credentials in 2003.

A nurse practitioner in Stony Brook Surgery's Division of Vascular and Endovascular Surgery, Ms. Probeck earned her [bachelor's degree in nursing](#) and her adult nurse practitioner master's degree from the SON in 2003 and 2010, respectively.

TRIO HONORED AS 2025 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

On April 23, the School of Nursing celebrated three of its distinguished alumni at the 15th Annual Scholarship and Awards Ceremony—an event that united faculty, staff, students, alumni, and friends.

Kenya V. Beard '04

EdD, AGACNP-BC, ANEF, FAAN, FADLN

Dr. Beard is the inaugural dean and chief nursing officer at Mercy University's School of Nursing and the past chair of the New York State Board of Nursing. An esteemed health equity expert and transformational leader, she consults with organizations nationwide to build inclusive healthcare environments that expand access and improve the quality of care for all.

Her visionary approach has reshaped nursing education, policy, and practice, making her a highly sought-after speaker and global leader in the field.

Frankie Hamilon '11

MBA, MSN, RN, NEA-BC, FACHE

Dr. Hamilton is a dual master's degree-prepared, board-certified nurse leader with extensive experience in both clinical and administrative roles. He taught high school chemistry and biology for four years before he decided to pursue a career in nursing.

He began his journey as a med/surg nurse and has since progressed through various leadership positions, including assistant nurse manager, assistant director of nursing, deputy chief nursing officer, and more. He is the vice president of nursing operations at Maimonides Medical Center in Brooklyn, NY, where he oversees all nursing initiatives alongside his CNO.

Sarah Pesce '00

ANP, MSCDL

Ms. Pesce is the COO at Radence, the first science-driven luxury membership program built to guide early decisions for optimal health span.

She previously served as the COO of Thorne Lab, a pioneering division of Thorne HealthTech, where she led the development of an innovative clinical platform providing a comprehensive, 360-degree view of individual health.





Stony Brook School of Nursing

Stony Brook University School of Nursing offers [full- and part-time programs](#) in preparation for professional nursing practice at the basic and advanced levels:

- Bachelor of Science
- Master of Science in Advanced Practice Nursing
- Advanced Certificate in Advanced Practice Nursing
- Master of Science in Nursing Education
- Advanced Certificate Nursing Education
- Master of Science in Nursing Leadership
- Advanced Certificate in Nursing Leadership
- Doctor of Nursing Practice
- Doctor of Philosophy

