



ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

Summer 2023

Welcome

Dear Alumni,

With the summer season upon us, the School of Nursing would like to welcome you to the return of our Alumni Newsletter.

As always, your newsletter team and contributors hope you find the enclosed contents bring you up-to-date on the many exciting activities, events, continuing education opportunities, and changes that have occurred since the last publication. Since then, the School of Nursing welcomed long time faculty member, Dr. Patricia Bruckenthal as Dean of the School of Nursing.

As nurses we are innovators and collaborators, and for future newsletters we will strive to inform you of the significant and interesting activities involving our alumni.

Your SON Alumni Board wishes you a safe and healthy summer!

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- Alumni Highlights and Events
- School of Nursing Highlights and Events and More!



A Message from our Alumni Board President

Dr. Barbara Mills
DNP, ACNPC, ANPC, PNP, CCRN, PCCN



Dear Colleagues,

I am so excited to welcome you back to the SON Alumni Newsletter. On behalf of our Dean, Dr. Pat Bruckenthal and her faculty, we are looking forward to invigorating new and innovative communication between the school of nursing and our alumni.

My name is Barbara M. Mills, DNP, ACNPC, ANPC, PNP, CCRN, PCCN, and I am currently the SON Alumni Board President. I started my tenure back in June 2022 and have been getting acquainted to the role. My mission is to reach out to alumni, engage and educate them on the developments of the SON, and to reach out to our members to become involved with our organization.

The talent that has graduated from our school of nursing has been impressive and it is time for us to realize the strength of our members and what we can offer to support the mission and values of our school of nursing. We need to hear from you; tell us what you are doing in your professional and personal lives so that we can reconnect and reinvigorate our community.

This is just the beginning and we would love to hear from all of you, whether you are a new graduate or have been a long time graduate. Please feel free to reach out to me at Barbara.Mills@stonybrookmedicine.edu and I would be happy to respond to each and every one of you. It is time for a renewal, spring is here, and we want you to be involved and engaged in connecting with old and new friends.

A Message from our School of Nursing Dean

Dr. Patricia Bruckenthal
PhD, APRN-BC, FAAN



Welcome to the first issue of our revitalized alumni newsletter! Each issue, we will highlight important school news, activities, and alumni and student achievements. We hope you'll find this newsletter informative, inspiring, and engaging.

It's a source of great pride among the faculty and staff that our alumni stay engaged with Stony Brook University School of Nursing and keep us up-to-date on personal and professional successes. We enjoy hearing from our alumni and want to be sure that conversation is flowing both ways so that regular updates are provided on how we keep ahead of trends in the nursing profession and in education.

As we are facing a critical nursing shortage in New York and across the country, Stony Brook University School of Nursing is committed to addressing this challenge. For example, this past year, the School of Nursing admitted its first class of Acute Care Nurse Practitioners in both the Adult-Gerontology Nurse Practitioner and Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Programs. While each program admitted 10 students, these programs are expected to grow to meet the current demands for care.

In addition, the SON recently initiated two novel programs. The Bridge to Baccalaureate program, funded through a NYS High Needs Nursing Grant, created two additional articulation agreements with SUNY community colleges: Dutchess County Community College and Fulton Montgomery Community College. The development of these new clinical partnerships in the community colleges' geographic regions will afford students the opportunity to attend classes without commuting to the Stony Brook campus. New clinical partnerships will create potential job opportunities for new RNs while serving the healthcare needs of the communities where they live.

Dean Bruckenthal's message continued

The second initiative is a partnership with the Long Island State Veteran's Home (LISVH). Long-term care facilities are experiencing severe challenges in nurse staffing resulting in numerous vacant nurse positions. With funding from a Veteran's Administration grant, we were able to develop a partnership with the LISVH that secured an annual opportunity for three years for twelve (12) Associate Degree Registered Nurses who wish to obtain their bachelor's degrees. The LISVH-SBSON partnership will provide tuition reimbursement for these registered nurses who wish to attend a baccalaureate completion program at Stony Brook University's School of Nursing while working at the LISVH for a period of three years.

We also need you to help guide our new nurses into the profession during these challenging times. Our alumni are pushing the boundaries of what is possible and what is expected in nursing today. Our students are exploring the intersection of nursing and the health care system and society, and are poised to become talented, principled leader's intent on having a purposeful and positive impact on the health care of individuals, families, and communities. Your stories are inspirational and will help to ignite and sustain their passion for nursing. We want to celebrate your contributions to the profession, so be sure to stay in touch. The news and stories we share together will provide insights into how we are doing this important work together.

I hope you enjoy reading this newsletter, and I wish you all the best.

Warmly,

Patricia Bruckenthal



2023 Distinguished Alumni

2023 Distinguished Alumni Award Recipient, **Dr. Terri Marin**



Dr. Terri Marin graduated Stony Brook University in 2002 from the Neonatal Nurse Practitioner program. Since Dr. Marin graduated, she earned her PhD in Nursing from Emory University in 2018. She has become a respected, grant-funded researcher in the use of near-infrared spectroscopy in neonatal renal injury and gut oxygenation. Dr. Marin is one of a few neonatal nurse researchers in the country.

She is well published, a national speaker, and is the editor of the neonatal section of the Journal of Perinatal and Neonatal Nursing. Dr. Marin was recently tenured as an Associate Professor at Augusta University College of Nursing.

In Memoriam Distinguished Alumni Award Recipient, **Janet Zenk**

Janet Zenk was born in 1926 to Walter and Helen Scherr and grew up in Ozone Park, Queens. Janet Zenk enrolled in the Mary Immaculate Hospital School of Nursing and then worked part-time as a nurse at what is now Good Samaritan University Hospital for many years to keep her skills up to date while she raised five children with husband Martin Zenk. She returned to school in her late 40s when her children were older, eventually earning a master's degree from Stony Brook's nurse practitioner program.

Janet Zenk specialized in adult health. She loved learning and was always encouraging nurses to go back to school to further their education. She was a pioneer in Nursing and joined the Stony Brook Nursing faculty having a dual position as Educator with a Clinical Role in the first Hypertension Clinic at the Northport VA staffed with Nurse Practitioners.



Alumni Events

DNP Alumni Breakfast

On May 6, 2023, the School of Nursing held its annual Doctor of Nursing Practice Alumni Breakfast at the Hilton Garden Inn at Stony Brook University after a two year hiatus due to COVID.

This event also gave current DNP students the opportunity to network with DNP faculty, alumni, and the School of Nursing Dean, Dr. Patricia Bruckenthal.

The morning featured a welcome address from both the DNP alumni and President of the Alumni Board, Dr. Barbara Mills, and the Dean of the School of Nursing, Dr. Bruckenthal.

The DNP program welcomed its first class in 2008 and has been a pioneering program ever since. The DNP program has paved the way for nurses specializing in everything from Midwifery to Adult-Gerontology. Members of the first graduating class were also in attendance.

For more information on our Doctor of Nursing Practice Program, please visit the QR code below.



Alumni Highlights

Stony Brook University Hospital (SBUH) Welcomes New Nurse Educators

Five Stony Brook University School of Nursing graduates from the class of 2015 who chose Stony Brook Medicine to launch their careers have now become Nurse Educators in Stony Brook University Hospital.



- **Victoria Bannon MS, RN**
Nurse Educator- Neurocritical Care & Neuro Intermediate Care 8W1/8W2
- **Kelly Reinhart, MBA, BSN, RN, C-EFM, RNC-OB**
Nurse Educator-Antepartum, Postpartum and Labor & Delivery
- **Samantha Gross, BS, RN, OCN**
Unit Educator- Teaching and Research Center Nurse III Multidisciplinary Oncology Clinic
- **Lyndsay Vollmer, BSN, RN**
Nurse Educator- CPEP

*Missing from photo- **Michelle A. Beale, RN, MSN, OCN**, Nurse Educator- Outpatient Adult Infusion, Outpatient Pediatric Hematology/Oncology and Infusion.

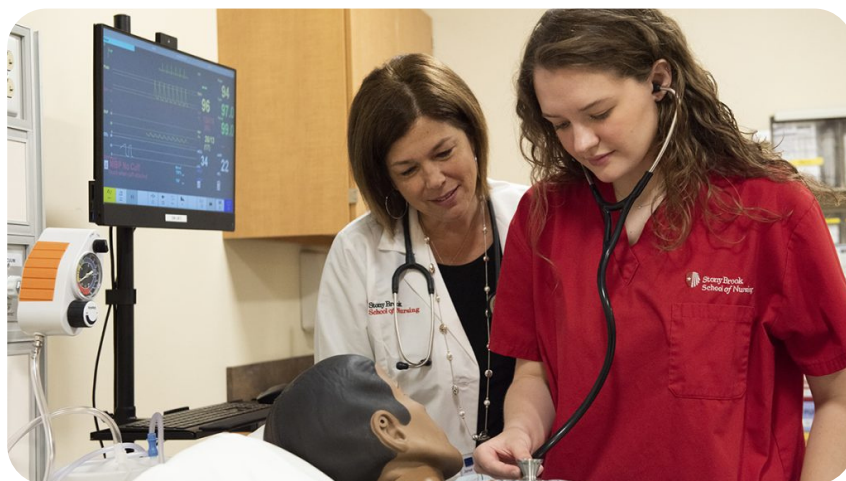
Thank you for choosing SBUH to continue on your career path!

Alumni Highlights

2023 Future Nurse Leader Award Recipient

Congratulations Stony Brook University School of Nursing (SBU-SON) Class of 2023 Graduate, Jaclyn Jahn, who was named a recipient of the 2023 Future Nurse Leader Award by the American Nurses Association – New York (ANA-NY).

The Future Nurse Leader Award is given to students nominated by their respective schools as outstanding students who demonstrate leadership, make significant contributions to their school, promote activity in nursing organizations, and embody the values and ethics of nursing. This year, ANA-NY is awarding 17 students in New York State with the honor.



Dr. Janet Galiczewski, Chair of Undergraduate Studies in the School of Nursing and an ANA member, nominated Ms. Jahn for the award.

Ms. Jahn has also demonstrated excellence in the field of discovery. Before she began her nursing studies, she contributed to a published paper related to aortic valve replacement in the *Journal of International Cardiology* alongside Dr. Kenneth Faulkner of the SBU-SON. As part of the Nursing Scholars Program, she conducted research with the former dean of the school on the association between financial resources, student resources, and student success. She presented the findings at the Eastern Nursing Research Society Conference (ENRS) last spring.

Congratulations, Jaclyn!



Faculty Highlights

2023 Florence Nightingale Awards Ceremony

Interdisciplinary Guided Network for Investigation, Translation, and Equity (IGNITE) Event

Two faculty members from the School of Nursing were recently accepted to participate in the Interdisciplinary Guided Network for Investigation, Translation, and Equity (IGNITE) Train-the-Trainer in-person event. This 2-day in person program introduced participants to the All of Us Research Program, Data Browser and Data Workbench with the aim of both learning how to use these powerful tools and sharing this knowledge with other researchers.

The aim of the All of Us Research Program focuses on: developing partnerships with diverse communities that reflect the demographics of the US population; building an expansive biomedical dataset; and synthesizing partnerships between communities, researchers and funders. More information can be found on the All of Us website: <https://allofus.nih.gov>

Congratulations, Dr. Ginex and Dr. Gerardi!



Dr. Giselle Gerardi
PhD, RN, RNC-OB, C-EFM



Dr. Pamela Ginex
EdD, MPH, RN, OCN



Congratulations to School of Nursing faculty member and DNP class of 2017 Alumni, Barbara Brathwaite, on receiving the 2023 School of Nursing Faculty Award at the SBUH Division of Nursing 2023 Florence Nightingale Awards Ceremony. Stony Brook University School of Nursing Dean, Patricia Bruckenthal, presented the award to Dr. Brathwaite.

Dr. Braithwaite co-leads one of the two School of Nursing led screening, health promotion, and referral to treatment clinics on campus. The Partnership to Advance Collaborative Education (PACE) clinic that Dr. Braithwaite leads addresses health and wellness needs of young adult students at Stony Brook University. Dr. Brathwaite and her nursing students have screened hundreds of Stony Brook students identifying potential and actual health risks, providing coaching for health behavior change and referral to treatment.

Thank you, Dr. Braithwaite, for your contributions to not only the field of nursing, but to the Stony Brook University School of Nursing as well!

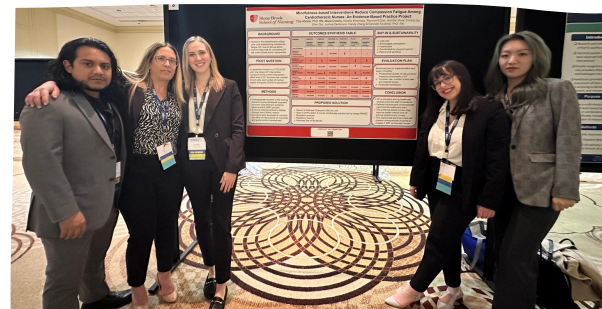
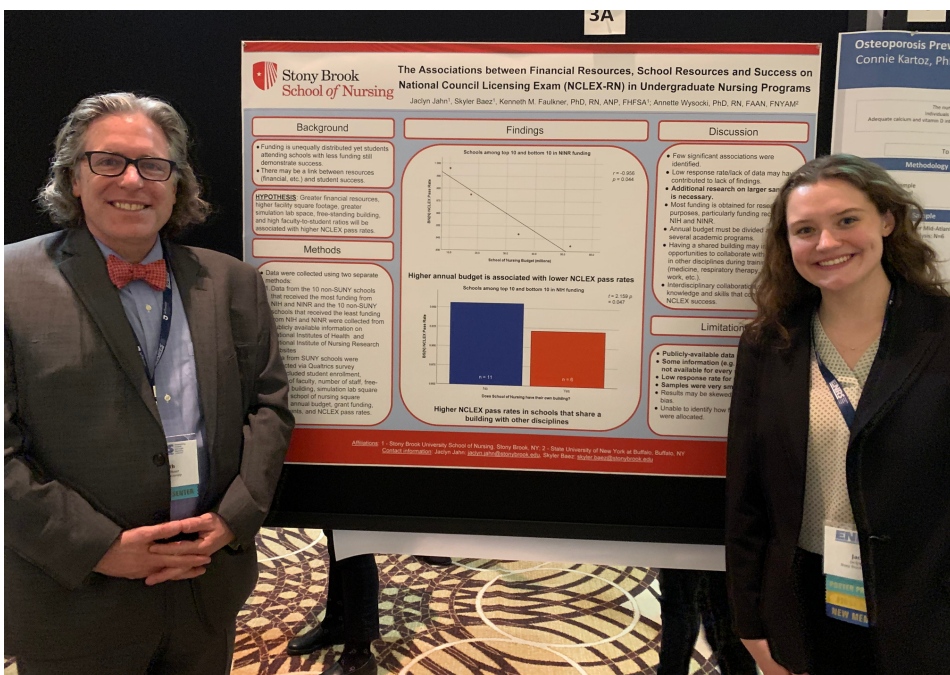
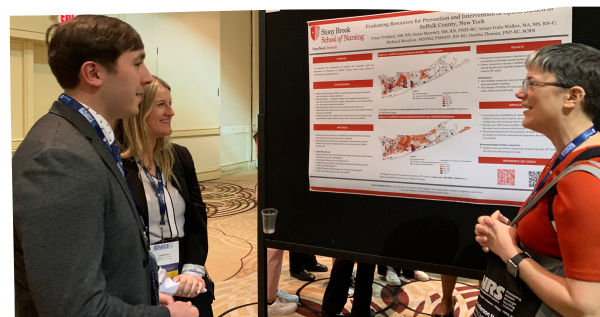
Student Highlights

2023 Convocation May 17, 2023

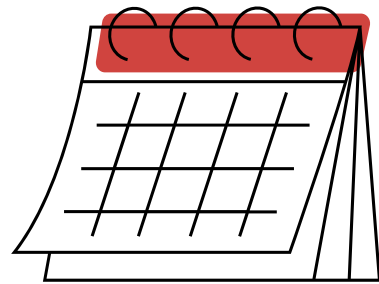


New Alumni Highlights

Eastern Nursing Research Society Conference (ENRS) March 23-24, 2023 Philadelphia, PA



Upcoming Events



Mark Your Calendars!

**Network with Stony Brook University
School of Nursing Alumni**



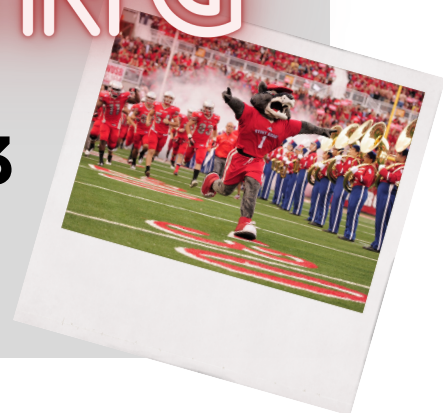
**39th Annual NPA Conference
October 19 - 22, 2023**



Stony Brook University

HOMECOMING

October 19 - 22, 2023



Have you recently changed jobs? Earned another degree? Published research? Traveled around the world? Celebrated a milestone? Share it with your Stony Brook University School of Nursing Alumni! Share stories and pictures - your milestone will be featured in a future newsletter!

Please email:
Amy.Prokop@stonybrook.edu

The School of Nursing Alumni Board, 2023-2024

Executive Board

President: Barbara Mills MS '93 DNP '03

Past President: Jeanne Martin MS '96, DNP '16

Alumni Relations: Marc Soevyn

Ex-Officio: Dr. Patricia Bruckenthal

Board Members: Adriann Combs, Kathleen Csillag-Klein, Charles Davis, Michael Davison, Kathleen Dhundale, Tracy Dourdonas Larontonda, Debra Grimm, Samara Kravtiz, Jeanne Martin, Joan Nathan, Margaret O'Donnell, Connor O'Sullivan, Ramona Ramdeo-Persaud, Smitha Thotam

If you would like to join the Alumni Board, please contact:
Barbara.Mills@stonybrookmedicine.edu

Connect with us:

