

***REPORT TO THE UNIVERSITY SENATE***

TO: University Senate

FROM: Michael A. Bernstein, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

DATE: Monday, April 3, 2017

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***Faculty Awards Archive***

The Office of the Provost is creating an archive of all awards and honors received by Stony Brook faculty. Its purpose is to keep an accurate set of records on the distinguished achievements of our faculty both for the sake of properly celebrating such accomplishments and for the sake of posterity. Faculty will now be able to record their award information through the link <http://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/provost/faculty/awards>. New entries for the 2016-2017 academic year should be submitted by Friday, April 28. Please be advised that these honors may be featured in public locations, such as the Provost's Office website, at the discretion of the Provost's Office. For further questions, please contact Andrei Antonenko at [andrei.antonenko@stonybrook.edu](mailto:andrei.antonenko@stonybrook.edu).

***March Provost's Lecture Series***

Embracing Diversity & Inclusion: Individual Action for Change

The Provost's Lecture Series was pleased to host Ajay Nair, Senior Vice President and Dean of Campus Life at Emory University on Thursday, March 23, 2017. Dr. Nair is an accomplished scholar and student affairs leader whose interests include immigration, race, and ethnicity. His current book project explores the state of multiculturalism in higher education today. His lecture, entitled "Embracing Diversity & Inclusion: Individual Action for Change," opened the 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Leadership Symposium: Challenges in Higher Education.

The topic focused on creating an inclusive campus community by empowering individual action for change. The theme embraced a broader definition of diversity with a focus on race, ethnicity, age, gender, religion, ability, veteran status, socioeconomic level, and sexual orientation. Nair was joined by Cheryl Chambers, Associate Dean of Multicultural Affairs, and Robbye Kinkade, Director of the Responding to Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (R.E.D.I.) Project.

For more information on the Leadership Symposium, please visit <http://studentaffairs.stonybrook.edu/prodev/symposium/>.

Life and Evolution as Physics

Adrian Bejan is J.A. Jones Distinguished Professor of Mechanical Engineering at Duke University. His research covers engineering science and applied physics: thermodynamics, heat transfer, fluid mechanics, convection and porous media. More recently, he developed the

constructal law of organization and evolution in nature. Professor Bejan was ranked in 2001 among the 100 most highly cited authors worldwide in engineering (all fields, all countries) by the Institute for Scientific Information. He has received 18 honorary doctorates from universities in 11 countries and is the author of 30 books and more than 600 peer-referred articles.

*Abstract:* What is evolution and why does it exist in the geophysical, biological, social and technological realms — in short, everywhere? Why is there a time direction — a time arrow — in the changes we know are happening every moment and everywhere? These are questions of physics, about everything. The physics answer is that nothing lives, flows, moves and morphs unless it is driven by power and has freedom to change. The power is destroyed by the flows, and the flow architectures evolve into configurations that provide progressively greater access for movement. The universal natural tendency to “evolve” was placed in physics by the constructal law (1996). Dr. Bejan’s lecture, “Life and Evolution as Physics,” showed why this law is useful to us. We are the evolving “human and machine species.” Evolution can be put to use in our lifetime in technology, transportation, urban design, spreading and collecting, miniaturization, communications, science, government and the unstoppable march to freedom, access, wealth and knowledge.

This lecture took place on Thursday, March 30, 2017. It was co-sponsored by the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences and the Department of Mechanical Engineering.

#### About the Provost’s Lecture Series

The Provost’s Lecture Series has become a popular vehicle for supporting distinguished lecture visits to campus. For more information about upcoming lectures, please visit <http://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/provost/lectures.html>.

#### ***Faculty Participation in the May 2017 Commencement Ceremony and Regalia Rental Information***

Faculty participation during commencement creates a meaningful atmosphere for our graduates and their families. All faculty are invited to participate in the academic ceremony and are asked to RSVP. Please note that any faculty interested in walking in the academic procession or serving as a marshal must wear academic attire. The Office of the Provost will pay for the rental of academic attire for all faculty in departments that report to the provostial area. Orders can be placed at <http://www.herffjones.com/faculty>. Faculty from reporting departments should use the following numbers:

Customer Number: 31003853000  
Order Number: 3858349

Orders must be placed by **April 15, 2017**. Any order placed after this date are subject to shipping charges and an expedited handling fee. Regalia that has been ordered online by April 15 will be available for pick up between 11:00 AM and 2:00 PM at Shop Red West starting May 15.

For more information about faculty participation in commencement, please visit <https://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/commencement/faculty.php>.

### ***URECA's Annual Celebration of Undergraduate Research & Creativity***

URECA's Celebration of Undergraduate Research & Creativity is an annual event organized by the URECA Program that showcases undergraduate research. It is open to all SBU undergraduates conducting faculty-mentored research and creative projects. As the only university-wide research symposium, this event provides a way for faculty and students to see what's going on in their own and other departments. The success of URECA's Research Celebration relies on the efforts of faculty who provide time, resources, and encouragement to participate. Students who have done research off campus may also present these projects at URECA.

A central part of the Celebration is a large all-day poster session where students present their work to faculty, each other, and visitors. The Departments of English, History, Psychology, and Writing & Rhetoric are holding concurrent symposia featuring oral presentations. The College of Engineering and Applied Sciences will hold a senior design conference featuring talks from selected teams in each of the engineering departments. URECA also sponsors an undergraduate art exhibition at the SAC Gallery.

This year's event will take place on Wednesday, April 26, 2017 in SAC Ballroom A from 10:00 AM-4:00 PM. All are welcome to attend.

### ***Inaugural Engineering-Driven Medicine Distinguished Lecture***

Professor Subra Suresh, President of Carnegie Mellon University, will present "The Study of Human Diseases at the Intersections of Engineering, Sciences, and Medicine" on Thursday, April 20, at 11 am in the Charles B. Wang Center Theater. This is the first of the engineering-driven medicine distinguished lecture series presented by Stony Brook's College of Engineering and Applied Sciences and School of Medicine.

A distinguished engineer and scientist, Suresh is the first and only university president to be elected to all three National Academies: the National Academy of Medicine (2013), the National Academy of Sciences (2012), and the National Academy of Engineering (2002). He is also an elected member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and a fellow of the National Academy of Inventors. He has been awarded 11 honorary doctorate degrees from institutions in seven countries, and was awarded the Padma Shri, one of the highest civilian honors, by the President of India in 2011.

This is an extraordinary opportunity to hear from an outstanding scholar in convergence science and gain a greater understanding of the ever-evolving connections between engineering and medicine.