

REPORT TO THE UNIVERSITY SENATE

TO: University Senate

FROM: Paul Goldbart, Executive Vice President and Provost

DATE: Monday, April 5, 2021

2021 Faculty Regalia Information

The Provost's Office will sponsor the fees of any regalia rentals for full-time campus faculty on a first-come, first-served basis. ALL faculty must use Customer # 31100676111. Please use College or School specific number to ensure that regalia is delivered to the proper destination.

Order numbers are:

- School of Dental Medicine: # 4473941
- Renaissance School of Medicine: # 4494446
- Program in Public Health: # 4501139
- All Other Faculty: # 4480038

Regalia can be ordered [here](#). The last day to order regalia is April 16. All rentals should be returned to Shop Red West by May 26, 2021.

More information is available about commencement at <https://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/commencement/index.php>.

Computer Science Professors Receive \$1M NSF Award for Distributed Systems Research

Annie Liu and Scott Stoller, professors in the Department of Computer Science, have been awarded a four-year \$1 million grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) for their research project, "Configuration for Assurance: Safe, Live and Secure Distributed Systems." This research will focus on DistAlgo, a language developed by Dr. Liu and her research team. DistAlgo aids distributed algorithms and systems to be more easily detailed, implemented, and verified to guarantee that the systems perform as intended on the internet.

SoMAS Faculty Receives SUNY TAF Award for Technology to Advance Septic Systems

Qingzhi Zhu, an associate professor in the School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences (SoMAS) at Stony Brook University, has received a SUNY Technology Accelerator Fund (TAF) award for his research to develop a low-cost, high-accuracy nitrogen detecting system for wastewater systems that has the potential to improve testing processes and quality of water. The TAF award provides seed funding for SUNY campuses to support potentially groundbreaking research on

technologies. TAF helps faculty inventors and scientists turn their research into market-ready technologies by developing feasibility studies, prototyping and testing, which demonstrate that an idea or innovation has commercial potential. Dr. Zhu will receive a \$50,000 grant with the TAF award.

With support from Stony Brook's Center for Clean Water Technology, Dr. Zhu and colleagues have created a low-maintenance sensor that has the potential to help manufacturers, homeowners and governments know that systems are performing as intended to protect water sources. His method involves using very small quantities of inexpensive and innocuous chemical reagents to selectively separate and detect nitrate/nitrite and ammonium from wastewater in a compact sensor unit. The sensor is designed for long-term deployments in wastewater systems with low maintenance and remote data transmission. It can be used to measure nitrate/nitrite and ammonium/ammonia in wastewater, water treatment plants, advanced septic systems and in surface and groundwater with minor modifications. The sensor won the phase II of the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Advanced Septic System Nitrogen Sensor Challenge, and it is now undergoing a six-month ISO ETV 14034 field verification test sponsored by the US EPA.

My Life As Speaker Series Presents Maggie Haberman

Maggie Haberman, White House correspondent for *The New York Times*, will deliver the latest My Life As Speaker Series lecture. A 2018 Pulitzer Prize winner, she will discuss her political reporting career and work covering the White House. Ms. Haberman joined *The Times* in 2015 and has covered five presidential elections. Prior to *The Times*, she worked for *Politico*, *The New York Post*, and *The New York Daily News*.

Her lecture will be streamed live on Wednesday, April 7 at 6 pm on the Stony Brook School of Communication and Journalism's YouTube, Facebook, and Twitter pages. The School's My Life As Speaker Series invites some of the biggest names in journalism to speak to students and the campus community about their lives and careers. To date, more than 75 speakers have inspired audiences and students.

"Larry Swanson Waste on Wednesdays" Webinar Series

In conjunction with Stony Brook University's School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences (SoMAS), the Evan R. Liblit Memorial Scholarship Fund Committee is hosting "Larry Swanson Waste on Wednesdays," a free four-part webinar series examining the management of solid waste on Long Island. Held in honor of the late Larry Swanson, former Associate Dean of SoMAS, the first webinar will take place on Wednesday, April 7 from 12 pm to 1 pm. Each webinar will allow participants to learn about various solid waste and recycling issues across Long Island. Topics will include latest developments, legislation, and other issues critical to managing solid waste.

Registration for this event can be found [here](#).

Graduate School Award Winners

The Graduate School coordinates an annual awards program to honor outstanding students, faculty, and staff. The awards celebrate excellence and achievement in areas from teaching and research to leadership and service. Below are this year's winners.

President's Award to Distinguished Doctoral Students

- Meghan Buckley, English
- Xujia Chen, Mathematics
- Sebastian Dick, Physics
- Sindhuja Tirumalai Govindarajan, Biomedical Engineering
- Jonathan Rawski, Linguistics

President's Award for Excellence in Teaching by a Graduate Student

- Marybeth Apriceno, Psychology
- Jack Burkart, Mathematics
- Moisés Hassan, Hispanic Languages and Literature
- Delicia Kamins, Philosophy
- Bernard Krumm, English
- Emma Talis, Applied Mathematics & Statistics

Stony Brook Foundation Trustees Dissertation Completion Fellowship

- Jessica Kim, Sociology
- Katharine Thompson, Interdepartmental Doctoral Program in Anthropological Sciences

Madeline Fusco Fellowship Award

- Stephanie Bonvissuto, Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies

Faculty-Staff Dissertation Fellowship Award

- Annu Daftuar, Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies

John Marburger III Fellowship for Science, Engineering and Mathematics

- Adelle Molina, Marine and Atmospheric Sciences

John Dunn Excellence Award in Life Sciences

- Kenneth Davidson, Ecology & Evolution
- Dedi Yang, Ecology & Evolution

Dean's Alumni Association Leadership Award

- Zared Shawver, Psychology

Dean's Award for Excellence in Graduate Mentoring by a Faculty Member

- Kathleen Vernon, Hispanic Languages and Literature

Dean's Award for Excellence in Graduate Teaching by a Faculty Member

- John Bailyn, Linguistics

Dean's Award for Excellence in Service by a Graduate Program Director

- Mary Rawlinson, Philosophy

Dean's Award for Excellence in Service to Graduate Education by a Graduate Program Coordinator

- Theresa Spadola, English

All awards will be highlighted at the Graduate School's Annual Awards Virtual Celebration on May 18.