NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH (NIH)

STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY urges Congress to provide at least \$44.7 billion for the National Institutes of Health in FY21.

A request of \$44.7 billion for NIH represents sustained, predictable growth and allows the United States to invest in scientific opportunities. It would create jobs, improve the lives—and quality of life —of millions of current and future patients, and support U.S. economic and national security. NIH-funded biomedical research performed at universities has led to U.S. leadership in the life sciences revolution of the 21st century. For example, NIH has made extraordinary progress in the development of a universal flu vaccine, which would provide long-term protection against multiple strains of influenza and eliminate the need for annual flu shots. This research underscores the promise of today's NIH-supported medical science.

Unfortunately, after a decade of sub-inflationary increases leading to a more than 20 percent loss in purchasing power, as well as failure to fully recover the \$1.6 billion lost to sequestration, the agency is struggling to fund meritorious scientific opportunities currently available. Our global leadership in the life sciences is increasingly under threat. If present trends continue, China's financial commitment to biomedical research will be twice that of the United States' in the next five years (and four times greater as a share of GDP).



At SBU's world-class Cancer Center, researchers are focusing on developing programs that will foster breakthroughs in the study and practice of cancer medicine. Robust investment for NIH in FY21 is crucial for SBU's continued success in developing novel therapies to improve the quality of life for cancer patients and save lives.

Highlights from Stony Brook University's NIH Funded Research:

- Developed Nobel-prize-winning Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) technology—a way to look inside living organisms without surgery or X-ray radiation
- Developing lifesaving medications, including ReoPro—a drug that has helped millions of patients prevent heart attacks after angioplasty and stent procedures
- Revolutionizing the treatment against fungal infections, which cause more than one million deaths annually

A revolutionary NIH funded interdisciplinary computer modeling project led by SBU professor Danny Bluestein, aims to better understand cardiovascular disease, which remains the leading cause of death in the developed world.



Professor Danny Bluestein

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There is no greater return on the federal government's investment than discoveries that lead to improved health, longer lives and the ability to overcome seemingly insurmountable odds.

About 83 percent of NIH funding puts more than **300,000 scientists to work** at **2,500 institutions** across the country. In 2014 alone, NIH investments **supported \$58 billion in economic activity**, with **17 states experiencing NIH supported economic activity** of more than **\$1 billion** in biomedical research leading to the creation of more than **400,000 high-quality jobs** and producing nearly **\$60 billion in economic activity**, according to a recent report by United for Medical Research.



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