

Stony Brook names new president

by Henry E. Powderly II

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Samuel Stanley, Jr., M.D.

Stony Brook University has selected a doctor, professor and an expert in infectious diseases as its fifth president, replacing Shirley Strum Kenny, who retires in June.

Dr. Samuel L. Stanley Jr., currently vice chancellor for research at Washington University in St. Louis, will take over the helm of the state university on July 1 as long as he is approved by the State University of New York board.

At Washington University, Stanley oversees a research portfolio of \$548 million, which includes \$319 million from the National Institutes of Health. Also, in addition to his vice chancellor duties, Stanley is a professor of medicine and molecular biology.

Stanley earned his bachelor's degree in 1976 from the University of Chicago and his medical degree from the prestigious Harvard Medical School in 1980.

in 2003 he was named director of the Midwest Regional Center for Excellence for Biodefense and Emerging Infectious Diseases Research, an NIH-funded research center.

Search committee chairman Richard Nasti in [a letter to colleagues](#) said Stanley's background in medicine and science will help Stony Brook bolster its relationships with some of Long Island's largest research institutions.

"Dr. Stanley will lead Stony Brook's efforts to build upon the foundation of critical relationships with Brookhaven National Lab and Cold Spring Harbor Lab. Under his leadership, Stony Brook can indeed become a national center of cutting edge research and help cure disease in a number of areas," he wrote.

Stanley's credentials are much different from those of Strum Kenny, whose background is in English and journalism. That humanities background, however, didn't keep Strum Kenny - Stony Brook's first female president - from reforming the medical school and medical center during her tenure, especially following the deaths in 2006 of three infants at the hospital.

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