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Governor Pataki Re-designates Stony Brook University as a New York State Center for Advanced Technology

June 30, 2004 (Stony Brook, NY) - Governor George E. Pataki announced today that Stony Brook University is among the ten leading research institutions awarded designation as a New York State Center for Advanced Technology (CAT), part of an initiative to foster technological and economic collaboration among New York's industries and research universities. The Long Island Life Sciences Initiative (LILSI) congratulates Stony Brook University for its prestigious designation, and looks forward to a continued partnership with the Center for Biotechnology to stimulate further economic development of Long Island's life sciences industry.

"The announcement being made today reflects our comprehensive efforts to build a stronger and brighter economic future for New York State," said Governor Pataki. "By challenging our research centers to focus their intellectual talents on the technological needs of the 21st century, we are further securing New York's role as an international leader in high-tech and biotechnology research and economic development. These grants will support the world-class research being performed at New York's colleges and universities."

The breadth of Stony Brook University's research resources, coupled with the Center for Biotechnology's strong track record in assisting industry with applied research and commercialization, were key components of the University's bid for CAT re-designation. Based upon historical appropriations and subject to the availability of New York State funds, it is expected that Stony Brook University will receive up to \$1 million annually over the next ten years.

Russell W. Bessette, M.D., Executive Director of the New York State Office of Science, Technology and Academic Research (NYSTAR), said, "Under Governor Pataki's leadership, the CAT program has become an extremely important component of the State's high technology economic development efforts. The universities that have been awarded a highly coveted CAT designation will be key partners in helping to create a vibrant technology-based economy well into the foreseeable future." As a leading research institution and a New York State Center for Advanced Technology, Stony Brook University and the Center for Biotechnology are uniquely positioned to spur economic growth in Long Island's rapidly developing life sciences industry.

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LILSI's mission is to attract, retain and develop life sciences companies in the pharmaceutical, biotechnology, medical device, nutraceutical and cosmeceutical sectors on Long Island by providing business development, strategic networking, and educational opportunities to enhance corporate competitiveness, productivity, efficiency and profitability.

If you have any questions, or for more information, please feel free to contact Joseph Scaduto, Executive Director, Long Island Life Sciences Initiative, at 631-632-1080 or jscaduto@lils.org.

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