

Aidan Foley
Stony Brook University
aidan.foley@stonybrook.edu

SBU Administration Celebrates the School Being Selected as the Anchor Institution of the New York Climate Exchange

Stony Brook, NY: On April 24, 2023, New York City Mayor Eric Adams announced the New York Climate Exchange, and with it the fact that Stony Brook would be chosen as the anchor institution for the project. The New York Climate Exchange is an “international center for developing and deploying dynamic solutions to our global climate crisis” built on Governor’s Island. It intends to act as a hub for world leaders and climate experts as well as help local residents gain the skills they need to work in jobs that would improve the local environment.

To celebrate the University being chosen, the Administration planted a Shagbark Hickory tree, an original Governors Island nut tree species, at the Academic Mall. For the rest of the ceremony music and refreshments were provided, along with a giveaway of succulent plants. Maurie McInnis, the University president, spoke on Stony Brook’s success in being chosen and it’s role in the Climate Exchange: “The last decade has made us all acutely aware of critical challenges, especially at the forefront of climate change. Stony Brook, working collaboratively with many partners, has answered that call.



The Climate Exchange isn’t just a meeting and training facility. It’s planned to contain various labs to facilitate sustainability-oriented research, for example utilizing it’s coastal location for a tidal pool, allowing for important marine biology research. The Exchange is also planned to be a model of

sustainability, demonstrating cradle-to-cradle architecture and technologies and being an example for coastal urban environments. The project also plans to work in collaboration with the New York Harbor School, a public highschool on the island focused on maritime education.

The project so far has had \$250 million contributed from various entities including the City of New York. SBU won't be contributing any funding to the design or construction of the facility, or for the main operating expenses. The funding goes not through SBU, but through The Climate Exchange, which is its own financial entity, specifically a charitable organization, representing many participating institutions.

About The Climate Exchange: The New York Climate Exchange is a collaborative project between numerous universities and non-profit institutions to build a research and training center focused on climate change and sustainability on Governors Island. The project is projected to cost \$700 million and has been two decades in the making and planned to begin construction in 2025 and be opened in 2028.