



**To the Campus Community**

**Samuel L. Stanley, Jr., M.D., President** to: Torre,F.Jason  
Please respond to clondoiro

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To all Faculty, Staff and Students:

I am writing to inform you that today Stony Brook University is mourning the loss of a bright young star. Lin Chen, 28, a newly appointed research assistant professor in the Department of Mathematics and the Simons Center for Geometry and Physics, was on vacation with friends in Puerto Rico when he accidentally drowned while swimming in the ocean over the weekend.

There is no information regarding funeral services at this time.

Lin Chen joined the Simons Center for Geometry and Physics as a Research Assistant Professor in September, 2009 after receiving his PhD in Mathematics from UCLA. He received his undergraduate training at Peking University in Beijing, China. Professor Chen had broad ranging interests in mathematics. These included number theory, representation theory and knot theory. He concentrated especially on the interface between these mathematical topics and theoretical physics. In his thesis, entitled 'Gromov-Witten Invariants and Chern-Simons theory of knot invariants' he applied two of the most important theories of theoretical physics to the topological question of understanding and classifying knotted loops in three-dimensional space. In addition to his thesis, Professor Chen produced four original journal articles in mathematics and physics.

Professor Chen was an extremely promising young mathematician working in a field of significant importance to both mathematics and physics. He was off to an excellent start and he showed every indication of being a prolific contributor to his fields of interest. We mourn his untimely passing, and send heartfelt condolences to his family.

Samuel L. Stanley, Jr., M.D.  
President