

# NEWS & BLUES

Volume 2, No. 8

The Newspaper of Stony Brook's Graduate Students

May 2002

## Stony Brook University and its Endless Graduate Housing Crisis

by Masha Prodanovic  
Chair, Housing Committee

A friend of mine has recently sent me back the very first email I wrote when I came to Stony Brook from Europe two years ago. Among all of the "Alice in the Wonderland" experiences, I was describing I stated: "The [Chapin] apartment I moved in is kind of crappy... they don't seem to appreciate having brick walls and tiles in the bathroom here, but I guess that I am too tired now after not sleeping for 30 hours. It will look better tomorrow."

Well, I got some sleep after that. The apartment, however, didn't seem to improve - I rather got used to it. Moreover, during the two years I discovered so many issues underlying that simple statement. For instance, what I did not seem to appreciate at that very moment is that I actually HAD housing, unlike some 80 students that landed in Stony Brook in the same year and were ultimately housed necessarily in doubled rooms or the Chapin Community Center. The same number in 2001 was left to provide for themselves, since overcrowding already plagued Chapin and there was no other feasible solution. They lived in other people's living rooms for months until being able to find housing on their own off campus. To remedy that, Campus Residences are guaranteeing housing to all new students that apply for housing by May 15th, but that is done at the

expense of students that already live in the Apartments and is actually putting the problem off, since finding off campus housing is not an easy task for anybody. Moreover, some programs send out their offers late, or potential students are simply undecided at the time - they end up being among the mentioned 80. International or not, people do have reasonable expectations of finding decent housing in the area.

Well, as much as Administration would like to blame unfortunate settling off campus on wealthy, expensive and discriminatory surrounding for all the problems we are faced with now, there has been a history of bad and non-for-seeing decisions on campus in that regard. How does the statement "The Chapin Complex was built [in 1981.] to last 10 years" sound? And it was. No wonder that now it represents a black hole in terms of money it needs for maintenance and renovation! And, although it is very costly to live there its budget is very tight! On the other hand, it doesn't take a BA to realize that you are better off than if you were homeless (no matter how desperate you might be).

Schomburg apartments are not that bad, you might think. Participation in the latest Schomburg Rent Review has left a bitter taste in my mouth, I must confess. Some 13 years ago, the loan was taken to build the Apartments. The

debt flourished over the years, was refinanced a couple of times (by taking more loans), and over the past years Schomburg has faced the dramatic rent increase due to the necessity of paying off the debt in full, since the Campus Residences budget tightened with building new Undergrad Apartments. Although they are allowed to have a voice in the decision-making, the students

have to house undergrads, given that grads are a more mature and diverse population, often with families and therefore different housing needs and expectations. You will be reminded of other schools that do not have graduate housing at all (but they are located in a city like Albany with plenty of off (cheap) campus housing opportunities). Furthermore, the University has to



participating in the Review were left with very little room for negotiations. Desperately searching for ways to cut the budget, we went through the budget in great detail as well as played with numerous variations of "which type of housing is going to carry more" in search for a solution it finally came to a frightening \$498 for one room in 4-bedroom apartment and \$997 for one bedroom apartment (refer to chart 1).

And when I say that the budget was cut then, I mean that you should not ask for a new mattress if in need since I do not believe you'll get one. It is most probably not in the budget.

Now, on your way through addressing the housing problems on various University levels, you'll come across all kinds of answers - the first one being that Universities do not have the same obligations to house graduate population as they

be given credit for exploring the option of building more graduate housing. But, the price tag would be estimated to be approx. \$800 for a room in four-bedroom apartment (it has to be self sufficient... there are obstacles such as SUNY-wide policy that makes it illegal for University to subsidize housing). And that is NOT called a solution for the graduate housing problem!

continues in p.3

### CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES

### Graduation Day:

### May 17th, 2002

*Best Wishes from the GSO!!!*

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## News & Blues

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## Alcohol Policy Alert!

If your club or organization would like to feature alcohol at any planned event — you MUST comply with the University's Protocol which is:  
(per Gary Mis, Office of Student Judiciary and Alcohol Policy Board Chair)

#1 — Approximately 6 weeks prior to event, register proposed event with the Office of Student Union Activities. The Board will then assess the liabilities concerning the proposed event and plan Security measures accordingly.

#2 — Once approved via the Student Union Activities Board, the event will be presented to the Vice President of Student Affairs, Dr. Fred Preston who has to ultimately grant permission for the permit.

#3 — University Police will drop by and monitor event to make certain alcohol is being served and consumed responsibly.

A departmental function should send requests to Dr. Preston's office directly for "Special Occasion" permits.

[gmis@notes.cc.sunysb.edu](mailto:gmis@notes.cc.sunysb.edu) or [fpreston@notes.cc.sunysb.edu](mailto:fpreston@notes.cc.sunysb.edu)

Overall, drinking alcoholic beverages is ONLY permitted in very specific "designated areas" as are listed in the "University Student Code of Conduct — Alcohol Policy — Rules of Public Order" booklet.

You may obtain the booklet (which is currently under revision) at the Office of the Student Judiciary, GSO Office, or online @ [www.sunysb.edu/stuaff/judiciary/alcohol](http://www.sunysb.edu/stuaff/judiciary/alcohol)

Good Luck and I hope this helps!!!

*This is in response to this year's SpringFest, which the GSO did not follow the correct protocol to obtain the permit for alcohol present. The Graduate Student Organization is truly sorry to have been responsible for the concern this caused within our Stony Brook community.*

Sincerely, Pegine Walrad  
GSO President 2001-2

### PUT YOUR ADVERTISEMENT OR PERSONAL MESSAGE HERE!

Tell about it, find a friend, leave a message. Buy, sell, rent, or give it away. Reach a highly educated, underpaid population.

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Display Ads  
(variety of formats accepted):

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\$50 1/8 page (vertical/horizontal)  
\$85 1/4 page (vertical/horizontal)  
\$125 half page (vertical/horizontal)  
\$200 full page

### Habitat for Humanity Fundraiser Helping the Stony Brook Community House a Family.

At the St. Patrick's Day Party and Habitat for Humanity Fundraiser: Masha Prodanovic, GSO Speaker, Dean Laurence Martin, Pegine Walrad, GSO President, Michael Klein and Jasmina Sinanovic, GSO Treasurer. Many tried but few succeeded in beating Dean Martin in fooseball!!!



continues from p.1  
The University's higher enrollment and extremely high cost of on campus housing are going to force students to move off campus. But finding housing in the area, especially at the beginning of the school year is a great interplay of its lack and discrimination. You'd better be a white non-smoking female without pets, friends or boyfriends. And, you really should not use any strange smelling spices when you cook. Renters usually do not report the rentals because of the very high fees they have to pay and moreover, it is illegal to rent one house to five different people (Nassau and Suffolk County law). This year, the housing for international students (and visiting faculty for that matter) is going to be especially problematic since, except from being able to finance a car, many will not be able to get the driver's license. Why? In the light of

September 11th, an existent but dormant law was discovered according to which one can obtain a NY State drivers' license only in the case that they have been here for at least a year, and your IAP66 or I20 (Immigration Services entry forms issued by school) is valid for one more.

Therefore, those coming here just for two-year (e.g. Master's) or shorter (e.g. exchange) programs will not be able to get the license. Having an international driver's license is an option, but it is appreciated only in NY state and valid for up to a year.

Also, many people learn to drive in the US since in their country that was not a necessity of life.

All this being said, I love this place - don't get me wrong. I am proud of being part of one of the youngest and fastest rising research

universities. And it is because of these feelings that seeing some people homeless (even if their only mistake was not applying by May 15th) hurts even more: I do wonder whether SBU is going in the right direction in its chasing its Ivy League colleagues (or at least Berkeley) . Increasing enrollment should not go blindly and on the expense of quality and students themselves. It could ultimately turn around in the wrong direction. (see chart 2)

mprodano@notes.cc.sunysb.edu

#### CHART 1

##### Schomburg Apartments Rent Rates over the years

	Single room(4-bedroom apt)	1-bedroom apt
1998/99	\$369	\$790
1999/2000	\$379	\$822
2000/01	\$396	\$835
2001/02	\$450	\$939
2002/03	\$498	\$997

#### CHART 2

##### Tentative apartment rates for 2002-03

Chapin Apartments (5% increase)	
Two-Bedroom (Family)	\$1302.00
One-bedroom	\$856.00
Studio	\$668.00
Family shared room	\$651.00
Single room	\$440.00-468.00
Double room (one space)	\$283.00-325.50

##### Schomburg Apartments

One-Bedroom (6.55% increase)	\$997.00 (\$1013 with A/C)
Single room(11% increase)	\$498.00 (\$514 with A/C)

## GSO Election Results

The election committee received exactly 500 ballots from the election. From this, 494 ballots were valid and were counted.

### GSO Executive Board

#### **PRESIDENT**

**BIN TANG 187**

**Bryan Field 108**

**Jasmina Sinanovic 170**

#### **VICE-PRESIDENT**

**MASA PRODANOVIC 239**

**Fan Wang 172**

**Ma Chi 26**

#### **SECRETARY**

**ANGELIKI POLLATOU 220**

**Abhijit Sengupta 206**

#### **TREASURER**

**RAJESH ELISETTY 329**

**Emma Lillen (write-in) 1**

**Bart Simpson (write-in.... no comment) 1**

**Anyone (write-in) 1**

### Referenda

1) Mandatory / voluntary Student Activity Fee  
**MANDATORY 302**  
**Voluntary 180**

2) Student Activity Fee Increase  
**NO INCREASE 284**  
**Increase 196**

## St Patrick's Day/Habitat for Humanity Fundraising Party — A Good Time Had by All!

by Pegine Walrad

The St Patrick's Day Party/Habitat for Humanity Fundraiser April 15th was a tremendous success! Thanks to the generosity of our graduate community, we raised over \$440 that was matched by the GSO Senate to \$880 and went to raise the roof on a home for a Long Island family in need. A tremendous, worthwhile goal that unified Stony Brook in this effort headed by Dr. Fred Preston, Vice President of Student Affairs. Our very own Dean of the Graduate School, Dr. Lawrence Martin, was joined by Michael Klein, Director of Campus Parking to match Foosball skills against graduate opponents - this drew an enthusiastic crowd as might have been expected! Ironically, the only team that was capable of beating the dynamic duo at this sport of champions were our music for the evening, Howie Kunzinger & Brendan Riker, who played matches & rematches between Irish Reggae sets.

Further entertainment was

provided by the inspired winners of the Dirty Limerick Contest, Jared "Big JD" Evans and James "Jimmy P" Morris. The evening also opened with "Stuck," an anti-war Cabaret @ the SPOT production written and directed by Ellada Evangelou and Jasmina Sinanovic which drew a dedicated crowd that stayed and enjoyed the remainder of the Fest.

Unfortunately, weather did not permit the "Catch the Leprechaun" chase that was to take place at Roth Pond earlier that afternoon, but the festivities of the evening were enough to bring out the Irishman in all of us as "Erin GsO Braugh" t-shirts were dolled out & donned by the proud grand majority of those present.

May the Road Rise to Meet You & the Wind be Always at your Back.

# In the Rhythm of Antigone Rising

## A new Women's Rock Band worth your while...



by Maureen Shaiman

The rhythm guitar strums gently as her voice lilts the pure notes, "I-I didn't love you" then in a heartbeat it shifts: drums, snarling electric guitar and the singer roars into the verse of "7th Day," an Antigone Rising anthem about the difficulties inherent in all human relationships: "I believe that what you want is what you find / but what I found is not what I had in mind."

If you haven't heard of Antigone Rising yet, honey, wake up and smell the sizzling leather. AR is a blazing young "all-girl" rock band that has been taking the east coast by storm and was listed by VH-1 as one of its top 10 bands to watch. My friend Tanya, not being able to shut up about how great these chicks are, convinced me to see them last November, and now I'm hooked I saw five shows in as many months. Be it ever a cliché, these chicks rock. And now the thrill of the live concert experience is available 24/7, with their new concert CD, SaY iT! an-TIG-uh-nee.

This disc includes several tracks from their earlier two CDs along with a bunch of previously unrecorded songs that have become favorites at their concerts, such as a rocking, harmonic and hilarious version of Queen's "Fat Bottom Girls" and the searing "Waiting, Watching, Wishing," with which they close the show. All their strengths are showcased here: melodic hooks, anthemic choruses, blistering guitar riffs, supple flourishes, poignant ballads, pop rhythms. It's a delight to have a live recording because of the intensity with which they feed off the audience's energy, a great many of whom sing or shout along with the lyrics and shake their fists in the air at appropriate moments.

The band has developed a cadre of mostly lesbian followers who travel great distances to go to each show, much like Deadheads once did. With five (gorgeous) young women, AR's audiences are largely female, though their songs have broad appeal, from mourning the death of a friend ("Michael") to

cheering a hero ("Abelene") and lots of angry love songs. Though the spirit of the great Janis Joplin clearly lives on in Cassidy, the lead singer, AR's songs are not in the spirit of the long tradition of women's victim/surrender songs, from Janis's begging, "take another little piece of my heart" to Sarah McLaughlin's crooning about "sweet surrender." Rather, they take up the mantle of Pat Benatar (who raged against "promises in the dark"), as in "Choke," a scathing kiss-off to a self-destructive lover: "Keep it, keep all of your madness / drown in all your sadness / choke on all your pain / cause I don't want to."

These are not just pretty faces; they are true musicians. Drummer Dena Tauriello, bass player Anne-Marie Stehn and rhythm guitarist Kristen Henderson are all excellent instrumentalists. But it is Cassidy and lead guitarist Cathy Henderson who reach down your throat, grab you by the guts and shake you til you're dizzy with their fast riffs and soaring lines, often in counterpoint to each other. Cathy and Kristen (sisters and co-founders) also sing, and when all three sing together, say on the chorus of "Better," it makes your hair stand on end.

It's worth the trip to see them in concert. It's fun to be a part of the crowd jumping up and down, pumping your fist and shouting, "CHOKES!" It's impressive to see that they get all the notes right live and not just in the studio. And it's amusing to see them clown around, especially Cathy and Kristen, who love to make goofy faces to mimic their guitar playing. These veterans of Lilith Fair and WAM-fest come to Long Island periodically, packing them in at the Shi-Bar in West Hempstead, and regularly sell out shows in NYC, at venues like the Mercury Lounge and the Bitter End.

Despite their rising stardom and full schedule, they graced us with their presence here at Stony Brook last December at a GSO sponsored event at The Spot and simulcast on WUSB, probably the best show of the five I've seen. This was not only because they were more talkative in explanations of the inspirations for

songs and extremely generous with their thanks to everyone at Stony Brook for "treating them like queens," but also because the music seemed even clearer, more forceful, and more right on than usual. It was the first time I heard "Broken," a ballad Cassidy wrote when contemplating giving up music, accompanied only by Kristen on acoustic guitar and showcasing the incredible richness and emotional range of her voice. Cassidy is mesmerizing as a performer; during this song, she became a force of nature. From the first gentle line, "I, I am a diamond and I can not be broken," I stopped breathing. In precise, poetic phrases the song speaks volumes about the struggle between wanting to give up after losing it all and the unbreakable spirit. The song builds slowly to the anguished wail of the climax, "It's been dead so long it can't die there again," and finishes with the same gentle, steely line with which it began. It was a few moments before I returned to my body and could move and talk. The song is on the new album, which is worth the price for this alone. Get it.

AR returns to Long Island on June 8, appearing at the Shi Bar in West Hempstead. Other upcoming concerts include May 14, Carolines Comedy Club in NYC; May 25, Asbury Music Festival in Asbury Park, NJ; June 14, The Bowery Ballroom in NYC; and July 17 in Albany NY with Joan Jett and the Blackhearts. For more information on these shows, ordering CDs or anything about the band, check out [www.antigonerising.com](http://www.antigonerising.com). Do yourself a favor don't miss out.

## Music Event

Saturday, May 11, 9:45am-11pm:

### The Third Annual Stony Brook Jazz Festival

Featuring six Long Island Collegiate and High School Bands, two Stony Brook ensembles and seminars on Jazz.

Concert: Stony Brook Big Band Jazz Ensembles, 8pm.

Place: Recital Hall, Stallet Center

Admission is FREE, except the 8pm concert which has an admission fee of \$8 (\$4 for seniors and students)

Tickets: Staller box office (631)632 ARTS

## Announcement

### 2002 Summer Union Crafts Center Courses

#### Excellent Low-cost Courses in:

**Photography** - Photography membership, Basic photography.

**Ceramics** - Ceramic membership, Pottery-making workshop, Clay animal sculptures.

**Leisure** - Defensive driving, Bartending.

Pre-registration required at:  
(631) 632-6820 or (631) 632-9392

Place: Stony Brook Union  
Time: Week of June 17, Week of July 15, 2002.

## Cabaret @ the Spot Presents

### EVENSONG

written and directed by Joan Hawley

Place: The Spot  
Day and Time: May 8th-10th  
(Thursday, Friday, Saturday) at 8pm

Join us in the Last Cabaret of the Year...!

We will expect to see you again next year,  
when the Cabaret re-opens.





The graduate led Queer Alliance hosted its 2nd Annual Sit OUT for Queer Awareness this past Wednesday, May 1st. A number of graduates, undergrads, faculty, and staff took part in taking over the lawn in front of the SAC for three hours and working to increase awareness of marriage equality and pressing legislation that is being considered in New York State.

## QUEER ALLIANCE SIT OUT



The Executive Committee of the graduate Queer Alliance: Tanya Smith, Amy Lu, Michelle Pratt, and Glenn Webb.

### Marcia Ann Gillespie: Inspiration for new leaders and new women.



The GSO sponsored Women's Leadership Conference held on April 25th, 2002 was a success, if only for the radiance of the key note speaker, Marcia Ann Gillespie, former editor of Ms magazine.

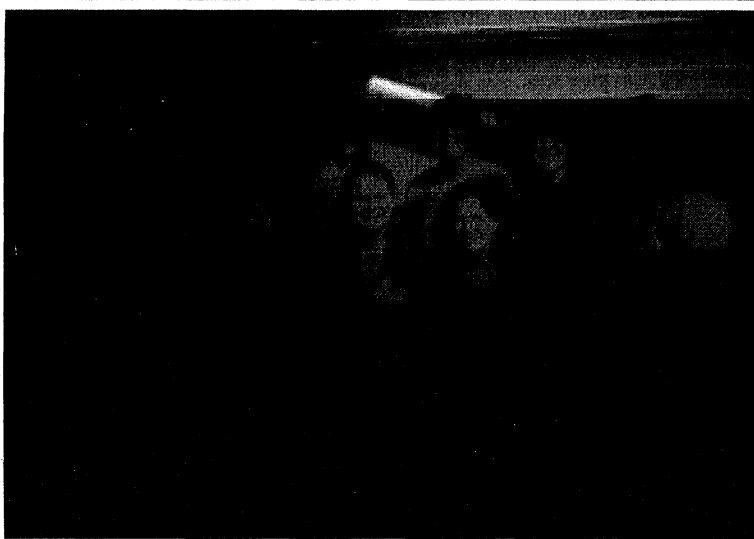
As a woman that prides herself in NOT being a radical feminist, I must admit that the Gillespie speech was an eye-opening experience. It served as a reminder for the woman in me that life and career are not always comparative power struggles, but personal. The only one you have to really answer to is yourself, and God (if you're going that route).

Ms Gillespie was thorough, realistic, deep, maternal, but mostly she was real. Although her success is no secret, she hardly talked about it. She focused on the woman, the individual, the mind, the heart, the brain.

### WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

GSO Sponsored Women's Leadership Symposium 2002-  
Leaders:

Regina Alandy, Tanya Smith, Meagen Reeve, Lisa LaBarbera, Julie Müller, Elizabeth Schwartz, Cheryl Chambers, front- Maureen Langdon Shaiman, Jacqui Becker (missing: Carmen Vazquez).



### THINKTANK

Come with Fresh Ideas About the GSO and the Stony Brook Graduate Community

For further information, contact GSO Vice President Tanya Smith at [tasmith@ic.sunysb.edu](mailto:tasmith@ic.sunysb.edu)

## "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times."

by Tanya Smith  
GSO Vice President

My experience serving as the Vice President of the GSO for the past year has been a challenging, productive, and enjoyable one. This year's Executive Committee brought together several women from diverse backgrounds and experiences, and I think it is fair to say that we have learned a lot from one another. I have personally enjoyed being part of student government, having a chance to advocate for graduate student rights, and being able to engage others in bringing events into fruition. Several of the projects that I have been able to work on through the GSO include the Survival Guide, the Queer Alliance's Drag Show, the Fall Concert Series: Antigone Rising, the Women's Leadership Symposium 2002, and the Sit OUT for Queer Awareness. I have served as the chair of the Social Concerns Committee, a member of the Rules and Constitution Committee, and a member of the University Senate Executive Committee. I have also enjoyed contributing to the News and Blues, debating with others at our monthly Senate meetings, keeping track of our various committees, and working with administrators via the University Senate and the GSO.

I cannot share in this brief summary all the insight I have gained regarding general university affairs, politics, networking, and how to play well with others. One of the things I pledged to do while running for office last year was to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the GSO. For those of you who have any idea of what the GSO is- that was an ambitious goal! However, I do feel that the Executive Committee has made significant progress in increasing participation from graduate students, forging better relationships with key administrators, and working more efficiently internally. I hope that I can work with next year's incoming Execs to ensue a painless and efficient transition. We invite anyone who wants to join us to discuss the future of the GSO to our annual Think Tank Session, which will be held in the next few weeks. Please e-mail me for more details ([tasmith@ic.sunysb.edu](mailto:tasmith@ic.sunysb.edu)).

In closing, I'd like to highlight one of the accomplishments I am most proud of. On April 25-27th we held the first ever Women's Leadership Symposium. This was a program designed by a number of graduate and undergraduate students, faculty, and staff. We hosted our keynote speaker, Marcia Ann Gillespie, who spoke on April 25th about Leadership- Personal, Professional, and Global Perspectives. Those who attended were treated to one of the most powerful and engaging lectures delivered on campus this year. I thank the GSO for being a generous sponsor of this event. On April 27th we held the Women's Leadership Conference, a daylong event that was attended by more than 40 students, faculty, and staff. Workshops were held throughout the day, led by 19 women leaders from the campus and community including Vivian Fisher, Carmen Vazquez, Janice Rohlf, Sister Sanaa Nadim, Anne Byrnes, Elizabeth Barnum, and many others. It was a powerful day of small group discussions, networking, community building and celebration. I am very grateful to all the women who helped to make this event a success, and hope that someone will be inspired to carry the torch next year. As for me, I plan to bury my head in my thesis reach for the next two years, having just had a very successful year of research preparation. However, while I may resolve to bury my head at this point, it may be tough to keep me too quiet next year we'll see.

Thanks again to those who have helped to make this year such a success and best of luck to you who are off to bigger and better things. It has been an honor and a pleasure working for you and with you.

## MOTHER COURAGE AND HER CHILDREN: The A-Effect Hits Stony Brook Stages with Laughter

By Christine Promin

Good old Bert Brecht is once again horrifying audiences with the reality of war. Stony Brook Stages presented *Mother Courage and Her Children*, the quasi musical epic play successfully with a minimal set and a live band. The director, Chris Dolman made indecisive choices. The lighting and set pieces projected the harsh edges of war. The acting, inconsistent in minor characters, proved to be truly honest in the moment (as Misner might say).

The plot follows *Mother Courage* and her children (Katrin, Eilif, and Swiss Cheese) through the Thirty Years War in Germany. *Mother Courage* sells trinkets from her traveling wagon during wartime to make a living profit. The tragedy of *Mother Courage* is a timeless one; the sacrifices to survive made in war, and how to survive through it all. Who really profits and wins in war?

The director, Chris Dolman chose to ignore the current war conditions, and set the play during World War I or was it World War II? The mixing of costume pieces from both eras, along with a modern day German flag, made it difficult to

jected words. Very Brechtian, but why weren't there projections between scenes? The floor was covered with a montage of dirt colors of brown and yellow. The minimal set consisted of *Mother Courage's* wagon, rolling screens, and a small shack of a house. The live band of



pianist, Ellen Micheltore, and percussionist, Jim Carroll brought electricity to the stage.

The acting proved to be from the Stanislavski school of acting rather than from Brecht's. The audience reacted to the tragic with deep remorse. Thacker's honest reactions and raw energy made her the perfect tender yet cruel *Mother Courage*. Josh Adler (Eilif) had the audience laughing during his comic song about his father. Adler displayed his mastery of body in the contorted figure of the Old Colonel. Julie Stiso (Yvette) pleased the audience with her angelic operatic voice. Shaniqua Williams

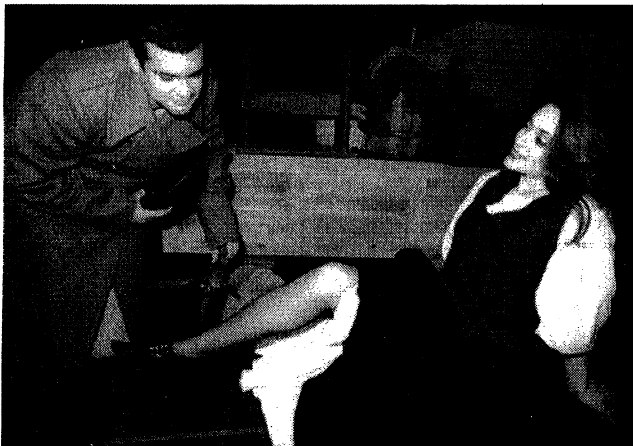
(Catholic Sergeant) radiated the stage with her magnetic presence. Charles Silva (the Cook) proved to be comic genius with his honest reactions and facial expressions. The most enjoyable moments of the

decipher. Dolman chose to focus the play on the tragedy of *Mother Courage*, played skillful by Candice Thacker, instead of focusing on Brecht's message, the tragedy of war. Dolman cast women in men roles as head sergeants and commanding colonels. But men were cast as lower ranking soldiers. This cross-casting was an interesting choice but the kind of statement is he trying to make about women was unclear.

The lighting designer, Russ Behrens, illuminated the stage with red lights against a screen with pro-

play were the interactions of Thacker and Silva. They lit the stage with their honest talking and listening.

The play *Mother Courage and Her Children* will remain to be a timeless piece of art. This production with its spin on casting made bold interesting choices. Stony Brook should be proud of the production; it successfully impacted the audience driving them to consider war and its repercussions on human life.



## Editorial

Dear Readers,

What a ride! Now with my life is at a turning point: graduating into the real world, where debating comes at a price. There it is expensive to be honest and one doesn't necessarily get away with the argument that we must obey our inner voice. Our year is not split up into neat sections, our summers are sacrificed on the altar of financial security.

But how can we refuse the flow of time? We shouldn't be able to, we got away with it too long already. So we let's not try the waters before we get in the sea... let's take the dive in from the platform and hope we don't get hypothermia.

Wishing you all PEACE and LUCK.

## Message from your GSO President, 2001-2002

To our Graduate Community,

It has been an eventful year marked by great tragedy, great initiatives, and a growing sense of who we are as a community. Challenging times strengthened our unity, dissipated our collective apathy, and forced us to action whether it be educational efforts, blood drives, peace demonstrations or just a thoughtful note or smile of support to neighbors in distress — we took more notice & concern about one another than before.

I hand off the President's Office to Bin Tang in a good position that I am sure will only improve through his leadership. I hope I have served you well and have demonstrated that positive initiatives can make substantial change possible.

There has been a significant rise in activities, projects, and efforts by Graduate Students to not only educate themselves, but their community at large. Our voices have echoed louder and through more administrative doors than in recent years. Our Graduate Lounge venues and attendance have grown to a proud degree and continue to provide our community with worthwhile entertainment possibilities and avenues for artistic expression. Let's keep our momentum humming & secure the administrative & community channels that have opened this year to ease access for future inspirations, ideas, & events.

We've come leaps & bounds in voicing graduate concerns, but many still remain. It's a transitional community we have; with ever-changing needs, concerns and desires. The best we can do is leave our home a little better for those who inherit our desks.

Thank-you & Good Luck!

Pegine Walrad

## SPECIAL FAREWELL...



A warm farewell to Meagen Reeve, Project Coordinator for NYPIRG (left), who's off to bigger and better things. Tanya Smith (right) GSO VP, says Good riddance ya bum!

Put something hearty in your life...

## **Stony Brook Martha Stewart**

by Elizabeth Bojza

Here's a good old favorite for you as we celebrate the end of the school year and the beginning of the summer. Bring this dish to a potluck barbeque or have an easy meal outdoors with the family!

### **Zucchini Pie**

#### Mix together:

3 cups chopped zucchini  
1 small onion, chopped  
1 cup Bisquick  
1/2 cup oil  
4 eggs, beaten  
1/2 pound grated cheddar cheese

Add parsley, oregano, salt and pepper to taste.

Grease a pie plate and spoon mixture in.  
Top with grated parmesan cheese.  
Bake for 30 minutes at 350 degrees Fahrenheit.

Enjoy!

### **The Graduate School Colloquium Series Proudly Presents: The 2002 Distinguished Doctoral Awards Colloquium**

Wednesday, May 15, 2002, 2:30-4:00 p.m.  
in the Javits room of the Melville Library  
(2nd floor)

This year's Distinguished Doctoral Award recipients will present their work (in language that non-scientists will understand!) at this annual colloquium. Even if it's not your field, come hear what the very best graduating Ph.D. students have done--what could be more interesting?

The presenters are: Mathew Cashen, Physics and Astronomy, Shu-Chiuan Chang, Physics and Astronomy, and Jianfeng Jiang, Chemistry. Congratulations to you!

Refreshments will follow at the Graduate Awards Reception Ceremony at 4:00p.m. in the Alliance Room.

For more information, contact Maureen Shaiman, Graduate Student Advocate, at [mlshaiman@notes.cc.sunysb.edu](mailto:mlshaiman@notes.cc.sunysb.edu)

## **ADVICE FROM YOUR SUNY SEXPERT CHRIS PROMIN**

*Please send us your questions and concerns about sexual, erotic and relationship issues*

*If something really troubles you, or if you just to get your name (or pseudoneme)  
in the paper,*

*send Chis your questions at*

**[sunysexpert@hotmail.com](mailto:sunysexpert@hotmail.com)**

### **WOMEN IN PRISONS & CHILDREN IN CRISIS SYMPOSIUM SUCH A SUCCESS, PART TWO FOLLOWED!**

Marie Laude  
President SSW/GSG

The Graduate Student Government in the School of Social Welfare at Stony Brook University invited the entire Stony Brook Community to a one-of-a-kind teaching/learning experience. This was a symposium entitled Women in Prisons & Children in Crisis: What's Going On? . The atmosphere of the event as it got started was particularly warm and welcoming. Relevant background music, the warmth of smiles of the event coordinators helped. Of course, the breakfast spread contributed significantly to this great start.

The symposium was held in honor of Women Herstory Month and Social Welfare Month, on March 15, 2002 in the auditorium of the Student Activities Center (SAC), west campus of Stony Brook University from 10:00 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. In the opening session, Marie Laude the Symposium Coordinator, joined two colleagues to also honor a

social work student whose life was cut short in a tragic accident in the summer of 2001.

Following the welcome program, six panelists made short presentations on aspects of their work and life experiences as they related to the symposium topic. Three simultaneous workshops - the drug laws, women's experiences during and after incarceration, and the impact on children - followed the lunch break.

The symposium met its objectives. More than fifty persons participated and strongly encouraged a follow-up session to focus on the drug laws and the implications for us in our personal and professional lives. The Graduate Student Government in the School of Social Welfare convened this follow-up session in the Health Sciences Center, Room 089 Level 2 on Saturday May 4, 2002.

Co-sponsors in the first event included C-3, CLC-Bar, Dean's Office in the School of Social Welfare, GSO, Office of Diversity and Affirmative Action and Underrepresented Graduate Scholars.

### **NATIONAL LEADER ON MINORITY EDUCATION DR. FREEMAN A. HRABOWSKI III - STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY OPENS CENTER FOR INCLUSIVE EDUCATION**

On Friday, May 3rd, University of Maryland Baltimore County President and national leader on minority access to science, technology, engineering and mathematics education, Dr. Freeman A. Hrabowski III, was the keynote speaker at Stony Brook University's Access to Success event, marking the opening of its Center for Inclusive Education. Dr. Hrabowski and a panel of students and faculty have discussed effective strategies for minority success in higher education and beyond.

Dr. Hrabowski's research and publications focus on science and math education with special emphasis on issues involving minority participation. He is widely regarded as the foremost expert in the field. His books Beating the Odds, focusing on parenting and high-achieving African American males in sciences, and Overcoming the Odds, on successful African American young women in science, are critically acclaimed.

Dr. Hrabowski is a recipient of the U.S. Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics, and Engineering Mentoring; he was named 'Marylander of the Year 1999' by the editors of the Baltimore Sun; and he received the Hatikvah Award from the Jewish National Fund, among many other honors and awards. He is the head of the nationally-acclaimed, multi-million dollar Meyerhoff Scholars program for gifted African American undergraduates in science and engineering. A child-leader

in the Civil Rights Movement, Dr. Hrabowski was prominently featured in Spike Lee's 1997 documentary, Four Little Girls, on the racially motivated bombing in 1963 of Birmingham's Sixteenth Street Baptist Church.

Stony Brook University's Center for Inclusive Education will serve as a hub for Stony Brook University's SUNY Alliance for Inclusive Graduate Education and the Professoriate (AGEP), SUNY Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (LSAMP), Collegiate Science and Technology Entry Program (CSTEP) and other diversity programs on the campus. Stony Brook is the lead institution for the statewide AGEP and LSAMP, which are both funded by National Science Foundation grants in order to further the number of underrepresented minority students who get degrees in science, technology, engineering and mathematics and continue on to academic careers. The Center for Inclusive Education will also house comprehensive resources on the topic.

Stony Brook University's AGEP partners are SUNY Albany, Binghamton, Buffalo, SUNY LSAMP and Brookhaven Science Associates at Brookhaven National Lab. LSAMP partners are SUNY Albany, Binghamton, Buffalo, Farmingdale, and SUNY Buffalo State College, SUNY College at New Paltz, SUNY College at Old Westbury, and several community colleges within each region.

# A MEETING WITH CLARA

She stood there, nonchalant. As life would always have it, I had missed my train to Washington and was forced to wait three hours before I could resume my journey. What better reason, to be here, with someone, I had always the pleasure of meeting. So, here, I was, in a not so busy part of the campus trying my luck at being normal, and myself;



She was dressed in her spring time best. I had always seen her, but never realized what she could have been to me. I sat on one of the green chairs with the plastic umbrella shading my head from a pleasant sunshine. It was a perfect morning, the right play of seasons, and heaven gracious, a right frame of mind. Clara, as I would always love to call her, was alone today. None of the usual twosomes who would share her solitude, and ask her to be witness to their eternal lovemaking. Today, it was I who had the fortune of being with her, knowing her, as I would never have known.

Her tender whispers had always evoked a sense of adorable love. Yet, I knew she was something more. I had always felt happy thinking of her. For one, she was always apart from me, yet somewhere in the deep depths, I knew of a communion beyond earthly reason, an urgency that could not be described only felt.

What always struck me, when I saw her, was her undaunted fearlessness, and her bold stature, the integrity of her person, and her passionate elegance. Now, in the full bloom of her youth, she

was parading her marvelous beauty to those who could own it; yet to my heart she was the form, she was the form the substantial bit of truth, that always brought me home to her existence, and her roots.

Her silence was most perfect, this morning blending effortlessly with the distant murmurs of a fountain and the random twitters of birds. I did not have to touch her to feel her, for she was all over me and within. Her aspiring gaze to the skies, made me remember my own dreams- how when I sat next to her, she would always remind me of the future hopes, and strength. These were the evergreen themes my life would revolve around now- dreams and the guts to realize them.

And Clara meant to me, rethinking those powerful surges, that overwhelmed me, redefining their meanings, and what she would ever selflessly give to me, reassurance, that one day they would come true. I would seek her companionship, and the enduring patience, and the subtle tenderness with which she comforted me. She was always the right blend of structure and flesh, the earthly and the essence, that made me ever at home, despite my ever vacillating moods of mirth and despondency.

Clara, Clara, I wish I could always capture my moments with you, when the pain of being what I am leads me to self doubt and fear, I look at you, my love, definition of my Future and realization, and I kneel before your awesome presence. Respect for you, respect for you, my love, from the inner throbs, the pulsation of my every nerve and my heart, tell me that you would be my constant faith and assurance. O Clara, when I got lost often, why did I not

behold you, aphorism of love, why did I always walk past, not seeing you, when you were ever there, always near me, always willing, always ready to give me that one cup of fulfilling love, that one moment of unperturbed calm, that could bring me back myself; why do I forget you in the midst of living. Why do I forget to be embraced in your ever flowing love? Clara, be mine, and demand my obeisance from me and my courtship, that I will be forever be nurtured by your immense warmth; I know that beyond you and me, there is always the world that often asks me to be different from what I am. Yet why succumb? Why can I not return to you at will.

Perhaps this tryst today means a beginning, a reality that I would see come true. When I would yield a moment to indulgent pleasure, basking in your presence, just letting me be myself, free of guilt, free of care.

Clara, today, is destiny's unwritten moment, the moment that made me see you, and hold you as you have always held me, and feel you through your vestments, the pure spirit that ennobles you, I leave a trace of my print by this shade and a moment in time for you to remember me by.

Love.....

Compiled by Smitha  
Friday, April 26, 2002,  
Stony Brook Campus, 11.10 hours.

