

news and blues

Volume 3, Number 9 The Newspaper of Stony Brook Graduate Students May, 2003

Coming together is a beginning, staying together is progress, working together is success.

International Students to Pay Additional Fee!!!

The news that International Students will be charged additional fee to satisfy the new governmental rules for tracking of international students has created a University-wide reaction among both students and staff, International as well as US citizens. News and Blues looked into information regarding this issue.

The most up to date information is that Provost McGrath asked the President to approve a \$35 fee per international student per semester and she said yes.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT FEE – University Senate Executives conclusion

By Masa Prodanovic

As reported at previous GSO senate meetings, the implementation of the new international student fee had been discussed at Graduate Council and Student Life standing committees of the University Senate with the last amount mentioned as \$50 per semester per international student.

The University Senate Executives discussed the issue on 04/21 and gave a formal response to the Administration as follows:

* The Senate Exec. are particularly mindful of using student fees to cover un-funded Federal mandates, but they agreed that a number of circumstances (budget, time scale, and consequences to foreign students) have contributed both to the proposing and the approval of this extraordinary fee.

* The fee collected should cover the two positions (a full time SL-2 SEVIS compliance officer, a full time international student advisor) ONLY.

* No part of the fee can be used to cover parts of the recent budget reduction and/or office expenses.

* The fee should be reexamined in Fall, 2005 by the Student Life Committee.

The final amount of the fee will be approved by the President most probably by the end of May.

Spring Fest 2003

by Abhijit Sengupta

Spring seems to be taking her own sweet time to come to Stony Brook, but that's certainly not so for the annual GSO Springfest. This year too, GSO threw its usual barbeque bash on Saturday, May 3rd. The location was a brand new one - at the same place where our new Graduate Student Lounge is supposed to be - the patio of the Student Union. For a change, the weather proved to be an ally. It all started on this bright sunny afternoon, the smell of barbeque permeated the air, music floated around, and we lazed around with beer glasses - didn't look at all like our usual weekend Stony Brook scene.

People came in groups and lapped up the food in the usual graduate student fashion. Free food in Stony Brook never goes un-eaten and we kept this reputation intact. Not to mention that the food and the dessert itself, catered by Tom and company were excellent! Beer and entertainment, courtesy Godfrey Palaia and his crew were as usual well appreciated. A live band or two would have made things better, but oh well - life isn't perfect. Maybe next year...

In the end we all - the GSO enthusiasts as well as the not so enthusiasts - went home with the satisfaction of a Saturday well spent.

GSO Election Results!

Elected Executive Council 2003-04:

President Guofeng Hou
Vice President Angeliki Pollatou
Secretary Christopher La Barbera
Treasurer Yiping Han

Fee: Voluntary

Results are as following

President: **Guofeng Hou 471** Chad Kautzer 454
Vice President: **Nitin Pilai 426** Angeliki Pollatou 458
Secretary: **Nishant Dholakia 426** Christopher La Barbera 444
Treasurer: **Bryan Field 424** Yiping Han 466
Mandatory 492 Voluntary 649

Write Ins:

President: blank 8, anyone else 1, Bin Tang 1, Calion Lockridge 1, Chris Gennari 1, Chris Noto 1, Dan Tilmont 1, George W. Bush 1, Hans Wurst 1, Jack Kevorkian 1, Janet Braunstein 1, Kieran Boyle 1, Luigi Lombardi 1, Mark Coleman 1, Matthew De Temple 1, None 1, Peter Langfelder 1, Ralph Nader 1, Seluck Eren 1, Stefan Hyman 1, Steve Martin 1, The Easter Bunny 1, Wei Li 1, Wilbur Farely 1, Yun Da 1

Vice President: blank 5, Axel Schweiss 1, Bing Tang 1, Brian McFarland 1, Dan Tilmont 1, David Corcoran 1, Fan Wang 2, Ibrahim Umal 1, Julian Berger 1, Misty Sarasano 1, None 1, outis 1, Peter Rissland 1, Santa Clause 1, Selma Hayak 1, Thomas Williams 1.

Secretary: blank 5, Batman 1, Brian McFarland 1, Dan Tilmont 1, Fan Wang 1, Halle Barry 1, Jin Lin 1, Justin Howe 1, Kerim Gulyuz 1, Marc Henner 1, Mickey Mouse 1, none 1, Rosa Schlupefer 1, Shawn Pottorf 1, Stephen Chu 1, Tamara DelVecchio 1

Treasurer blank 5, Brian McFarland 1, Dan Timont 1, Erica Woodin 1, Marcellus Ganish 1, Mark Yondola 1, Minnie Mouse 1, Mustafa Kalafat 1, Nathan Tittle 1, none 1, Robin 1, Sarah Stone 1, Stuart Morgan 1, The corpse of Timothy 1, Timo Beil 1, Wesley Francillon 1

RCC ruled in the meeting on Friday April 25, 2003 that "the results of the vote (mandatory/voluntary) should stand, be reported and used unless we are ordered to change by a valid higher authority (RCC Meeting Minutes from April 25, 2003)". The wording of the vote does not comply with the state law fully though the meaning is preserved. The discrepancy has been caused by the technical difficulties and time constraints.

New Requirements for I-20s & Things ALL International Students NEED to Know!

submitted by Dr. Elizabeth Barnum to the Graduate Council

There have been sweeping changes to immigration regulations governing international students, faculty and scholars. The Immigration and Naturalization Service has been reorganized under Homeland Security to the Bureau of Citizen and Immigration Services (BCIS) and the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (BICE). Note that the new electronic tracking Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) is under BICE, the enforcement branch. As we transition to

this new climate, please assist your students and scholars by paying careful attention to compliance dates and advisories sent out by International Services.

In order to comply with the SEVIS rules, before August 1, 2003 International Services must re-issue Forms I-20 and DS-2019 for all continuing F-1 and J-1 international students, faculty and scholars. In addition, we must all issue Forms I-20 and DS-2019 for all dependent family members in F-2 and J-2 status. With more than 2600 documents to reissue, in addition to the usually busy summer admissions season, we have set the following deadlines. Note that under SEVIS regulations, any F-1, J-1, J-2 or F-2 non-immigrant without a SEVIS form on August 1, is out-of-status and deportable under the law.

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GSO HOUSING UPDATE

by Masa Prodanovic, GSO Housing Committee Chair

Schomburg and Chapin Rent Reviews The rent will increase 5% across the board.

In Schomburg the increase will cover the inflation in utilities & state mandated costs, debt service payment and one additional resident assistant.

In Chapin, the increase will cover the inflation in utilities & state mandated costs, the 3rd and the last phase of renovations as agreed 2 years ago and the stipend for 4 CARA officers in the amount of \$1500 each (amounts to under \$0.60 per payin resident per month). While supporting the stipends for CARA officers who will have expanded duties in helping out during the new student check-in/orientation and programming, the residents present at the final meeting of 04/30 expressed a lot of discontent with the renovations.

Residents main contention was in relation to the quality of the renovations work completed during phases I and II, specially work that has been done by the hired contractors in the bathroom areas. Although all residents present understood that the 5% increase was agreed upon over three years, and was necessary in order to complete the remaining four buildings, they would accept the increase Under Protest. Some of the work that has already been completed needed to be fixed and corrected. In addition they felt that the quality of work in phase III must be improved dramatically or that cost for certain aspects of renovations would need to be justified in order for them to feel confident that their money was used properly to improve their living conditions.



Spring Fest 2003 at the UnionPatio-next to the new space for the Graduate Student Lounge-picture courtesy of Shawn Pottorf

A Note from the Editor

by Pegine Walrad

Dear Grads,

Summer will be upon us soon, and the earth is in bloom again. After such a harsh winter, the fact that trees can regrow and flowers can wait out the winter to catch the next Spring renews my hope and frees the mind.

To those of you who're graduating, good luck in your careers and lives ahead! May the friendships you've made here last you a lifetime, weather the storms, and continue to grow as you do.

To those of you who are still perfecting your graduate career - SEIZE the day! Make the most out of your time here and make certain to take advantage of every opportunity. I urge you to peek up from your research on occasion and get involved in your community around you. This year, more than ever before, we will need to demonstrate the unity of our community if we are to recover from the last winter of discontent.

There are opportunities to make things better here and now. Do not wait for your life to begin after school, for you may find yourself waiting and making excuses until 'the kids grow up' until 'I retire' and none of us know whether our road reaches that far.

Embellish and cherish the days you're given, improve the lives of those around you, raise the stakes (in a good way...) in your life and find out how much more joy you can reap from it.

In a recent graduate satisfaction survey, only 35% of our community would still choose Stony Brook if they knew then what they know now... so that's 65% of our community not able to change their own destiny and feeling trapped as a result. That's only 35% of our community taking responsibility and charge of their decisions and owning their lives.

If you are unhappy, strive for change. But OWN your lives. You are only indentured servants if you choose to be. Though it may feel like it at times, we are actually not bought & sold by the professors here... only our e-mails are. Graduate school can be a tough journey, but so can life. Preparing yourselves for the real world while at Stony Brook will make the culture shock of the local mall less daunting, and help you adapt to wherever you take yourself after here. Change and adaptation are integral to survival - just ask Darwin.

Have a terrific summer & good luck in the coming year!

NEW GRADUATE CLUB!!!

Fellow Graduate Students:

You are welcome to become a member of a new and developing graduate club at Stony Brook University called the **Graduate Alliance for Waste Reduction & Management (GAWRM)**.

The GAWRM will focus on all aspects of waste management, within the mediums of our land, our air, and our waters. It will be a collection of Stony Brook University graduate students who share the common concerns of waste management, particularly for Long Island NY but open to all regions; it will consist of a myriad of talented graduate students with diverse backgrounds such as in Waste Management, Ecology, Marine Science, Engineering, Political Science, Business, Philosophy, and other such disciplines as the club grows. This is indeed a very novel idea, and one that will serve this university, the surrounding community, and the participating graduate students well.

As of now, elections for all officer positions will be held near the end of September of 2003, and the open positions are for club President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Webmaster/Communications Secretary. Specific dates and times for elections will be posted on the GAWRM website ?News? section, listed below, as we get closer to September of 2003.

The GAWRM is not yet officially registered under the Stony Brook University Graduate Student Organization (GSO), but will be before October of 2003. Currently, the GAWRM constitution and mission statement are being drafted, and both will be complete well before the Fall 2003 semester begins.

If you are interested in becoming a member, or contributing to the development of the GAWRM, please send me an email. To keep track of the developments of the GAWRM, please visit the following website or send me an email and I will put you on the GAWRM mailing list:

<http://www.ic.sunysb.edu/stu/vgiurlan/GAWRM/news.htm>

Sincerely,

Vito Giurlanda,

Graduate Student, MPS in Waste Management Candidate, SPD/Marine Science and Research Center, SBU

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Continued from page 1: International SEVIS Fees:

April 15: Applications for new SEVIS Forms I-20 or DS-2019 must be received in the office. These requests must be accompanied by proof of financial support for the remainder of the student's or scholar's program. Graduate students who are funded through TA, GA or RA positions will need a letter verifying this funding. All Graduate Students will need to submit a letter of good standing, verifying that they are eligible to continue in the program. Students travelling outside of the US this summer will need a SEVIS form I-20 to apply for a re-entry.

May 1: Last day for May 2003 graduates to submit requests for Optional Practical training (OPT) or Academic Training (AT). Under new SEVIS regulations, students must apply to immigration for OPT prior to completion of the course of study. This is a three step process. We must issue a SEVIS Form I-20, then issue and OPT Form I-20 and then the student must file the OPT application with BCIS.

June 15: Last day to submit complete Forms 1705 to request Forms I-20 or DS-2019 for new Fall 2003 international students who are outside of the US. Note: with security clearance delays at consular posts abroad and consular closings at a number of locations, additional time for visa processing will be required.

July 1: Last day to submit Forms 1705 to request transfer Forms I-20 or DS-2019 for students who are currently in the US in F-1 or J-1 status and will be transferring to

Stony Brook from another US institution.

August 1: SEVIS compliance day. All continuing students and scholars must be active in SEVIS.

August 18: Arrival day for new and transfer International Students. Orientation begins. SEVIS cancels Forms I-20 or DS-2019 for Fall 2003 students who have not arrived in the US. Students who do not arrive by this date cannot be admitted to the United States at the port of entry.

August 18-20: International Graduate Student Orientation: All new International Student must attend all of the scheduled sessions. With increased enforcement provisions, it is of critical importance for new and transfer students to understand these rules.

August 21: Graduate School Orientation

September 3: First day of classes

September 23: "Snapshot" Last day for students to register for Fall 2003:

Students who are not registered fulltime on this day must be reported to SEVIS and F-1 or J-1 status will be terminated by the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (BICE).

If there are any questions, please contact our International Student and Scholar Advisers at 2-INTL. (632-4685)

*Note. Dr. Barnum is a Director of International Education and Assistant Dean for International Services at State University of New York at Stony Brook.

Presidential Farewell

By Bin Tang

During the past a few months, the GSO experienced some dramatic moments it never had before. For the first time in history, its President was impeached. And for the time in history, the graduate student activity fee, which is virtually the horsepower of GSO, was voted as Voluntary. As GSO President, I must say I am proud of neither. These are unfortunate setbacks no one would like to see.

However, I do appreciate the tremendous amount of effort put into GSO by our Executive Board and Senators. It is a sacrifice for them, as graduate students, to spend time improving the graduate community despite their study and research commitments. I do appreciate and am encouraged by many other people who contributed to the achievements we, as graduates, made this year. Let me name a few examples:

With the help of many students, faculty members and school administrators, our Graduate Student Lounge (the SPOT) finally found its new home in the Union Ballroom. It is worthy of a celebration considering all the bumpy years around it. This new "baby SPOT" is expected to give momentum to improve our graduate life on campus. It is further expected to be a very popular place not just for the graduate students, but also for our campus as a whole. My optimism can be testified by the great success of GSO's Spring Fest held there last week.

Second, we finished the Graduate Student Quality of Life Survey. GSO got generous support from the Faculty Student Association, Graduate School and President's office to conduct this survey. During it, 375 Stony Brook University graduate students were telephone-interviewed by professionals from Center of Survey Research. It was designed to assess graduate students' satisfaction with their quality of life at Stony Brook as well as evaluate various resources and services offered to graduate students. I am certain lots of useful information from this survey can help GSO and school administrators to adjust or establish their future policies concerned with the graduate life.

Third, GSO witnessed unprecedented participation from its members. We had more than 1,100 students cast their votes for the GSO election. This number doubled last year's turnout, which was already a historical high then. We had well attended Senate meetings every month and active involvement from not just senators, but many other graduate students.

Then, why did we have such setbacks? This deserves everyone's contemplation.

I must say that as President, I must take some of the responsibility. I am one of those who went through all the rocky times and finally came to understand how important it is for people to accommodate others' idea and be more understanding of each other. We had many voices. But there is no doubt we had just one goal --- to make life here better for all of us.

When people have different views, they should sit together and exchange their ideas.

When graduates have negative views about our GSO, they should participate and improve it. Making the fee voluntary can show the strength and voice of those who disapprove, but not the responsibility of members of this graduate community. Coming together is a beginning, staying together is a progress and working together is a success -- the motto from the News & Blues tells us the essence of GSO.

At the same time, I do think the GSO, as an organization of more than six thousand graduate students, should be more helpful to its members in many ways. We need to accommodate the diversity that exists amongst our students. We need to pay more attention to students' concern. Fortunately, after all those struggles, GSO began to take a more serious and closer look at itself. For example, for the past years, some of GSO's standing committees even didn't have detailed bylaws to guide their operations. Now, we are working on those documents to make sure that these committees are more efficient and productive.

According to the GSO constitution, only students who pay activity fees can be GSO members. Serious questions now arise: How to deal with those students who choose not to pay? Should people who don't pay be excluded from GSO services and activities?

The answer is NO (of course you can't even dream of getting RAP funding if you don't pay, sorry.) One thing is clear: GSO is a two-way road --- it needs support from students in order to serve them better. We are a community. The voluntary fee and the split of the membership can only make weaken GSO and graduate representation in the eyes of school administrators. We still have a long way to go and we must show our unified strength.

All in all, I urge you, as a Stony Brook Graduate Student, to become a GSO member and pay the activity fee next year. Your support means a lot to the organization. However, no matter what your choice is, you are still welcome to join us for help, for fun and for the rest of the exciting Stony Brook graduate journey.

Have a cool summer!

Campus Life Award Recipients:

GSO Service Awards Honorees:

Bryan Field, GSO Treasurer

Angeliki Field-Pollatou, GSO Secretary

Scott Graves, Board of Appeals Chair, Political Sciences Senator

Karl Juhnke, Rules and Constitution Committee member, AMS Senator

* **Chris LaBarbera**, GSO Speaker

Godfrey Palaia,

The Graduate Student Lounge manager,

Shawn Pottorf, Lounge Committee Chair,

Physics&Astronomy Senator,

Masa Prodanovic, GSO Vice President

Christine Promin, Graduate Student Advocate

Jasmina Sinanovic, News&Blues Assistant Editor,

Theatre Dept Senator

Pegine Walrad, News&Blues Editor

Campus Life Awards Honorees:

Salih Kocer - Community Service Award

Abhijit Sengupta - Multicultural Leadership Award

Chad Kautzer - Advocacy Leadership Award

Premchad Uppuluri - Recreational Leadership Award

Michelle Millar - Most Outstanding Advisor

Graduate Dean Lawrence Martin speaks on the Voluntary fee and problems GSO encountered this year. Go to page 6!

If you are interested in advertising in News and Blues email nusnblus@ic.sunysb.edu, Attn. Ad or fax a request to 632 8965. Personals are published for free, commercial ads. Ads range from business card size (\$30) to the full page size, 8.5x11 (\$250)

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Summer in Heaven, final episode

by Smitha

Agnes made sure she had locked the door of her apartment before heading off to meet Georgi. He was out of the Emergency ward. Dr Howard had informed her that he could have visitors, and that he would be able to talk. How welcome those words were! After two weeks of a battle she could not name, Agnes was eager to give him all he wanted and more. She had hoped he had forgotten everything about the murder and would be normal again. But he was a man, and he would not show even his deepest emotion. How often she had wished she could see through those deep set blue depths, uncover that soft interior, its fears and vulnerabilities and soothe him with the passion of her love....

Remon had told her he would come by in an hour or so that would leave her some time to be with him alone.

"They have moved him to the male ward."

"He is better, Miss Morceau", the staff nurse said with a comforting smile.

"Can I meet with Dr.Howard?"

"He should be here after the rounds. We'll let you know when he comes."

A frenzied terror gripped her as she turned the handle of the door of Georgi's room.

"You know what you've taken away from me, my life, my love, everything. Jack was right all along. You are a two faced demon, that's what you are, Georgi. D'you think I'll spare you, I have waited long...."

"I don't know what's come over you. The drugs again.

Look, if you want to shoot me, go ahead, shoot! Kill me if that makes you happier. But get this straight, Anne was never a part of my life. Jack has his reasons for having you believe all this nonsense. He could fool you all your life and you'd never know. I cannot fight you Allister, not now, not like this. But know this, you've wasted the life of an Angel, I can never forgive you for that, ever...."

Agnes did not know whether it was Georgi's voice, or some strip of a movie!

Was it possible? She rushed to the room where she saw Allister ready to pounce on Georgi. Georgi, pale, and distraught, tubes running all over his body, and his head wrapped in bandage, was trying to shield himself from Allister with his hand. At six feet five, with his heavy build, Allister looked ominous now. He hurled Agnes to the floor as she tried to wring Georgi away from him, and threw Georgi out of the bed.

"Never you say a word about Jack, He's given me life."

"Yes, he's driven you from becoming you." Between the blows, Georgi was trying to make him realize the truth. Agnes let out a scream that sent nurses rushing into the room. Dr.Howard stormed into the room, hearing the commotion. He tried to push Allister away while helping Georgi back to the bed. The nurses fought to grab Allister by his legs. Dr.Howard joined in to help the nurses pin Allister down. "I had loved her, she was my idol!"

"It was Jamie who had been with Anne. You got it all wrong, Allister."

Head nurse, Mary Angstrom informed the police. In ten minutes, Malcolm and Cline were there. Allister was taken into custody. Interrogations revealed that Jack had been exploiting Allister's strained relation with Georgi to his advantage. The fact that Allister was obsessively in love with Anne made it easier to convince him of Georgi's cruelty. The day Jamie raped Anne, Stanton had overheard Georgi's brief talk with Agnes, and that he would be dropping by; it was the perfect time to put his act together... egging Jamie for an amorous encounter with his girl friend. Though Jamie and Jack had been friends, this came later as a shock to Jamie. For all his spite of Anne, she was an instrument of pleasure, and he had no intentions to divest himself of that. During his violent sexual encounter with Anne, Allister had rushed into the room thinking it was Georgi in Anne's bed and fired missing Jamie and killing Anne instead.

"I will avenge your death, Anne," Allister had said, all along mistaking the silhouette of Jamie's to be that of Georgi's. Drugs had forced Allister to see a different reality full of his obsessive feelings for Anne, and a growing hatred for Georgi. As Allister spoke, Jamie fled the room. As Georgi entered the room whistling a soft old tune, he stared numbly as he saw Anne bloodied, and half naked in her bed. He rushed to the bed for a moment holding her as if she would come back to life by his touch. He wrapped her in a blanket and reminiscently stroked her golden hair kissing her softly on her bloodied cheek. Meanwhile, Allister had pumped himself with another dose of Cocaine and as he awoke from his trance, he heard a distraught Georgi say, "what the hell have you done, Allister?" shaking him fiercely by the collar midst tears.

"Get out of my life, you brute", and a violent fight follows. Allister growls, his face livid with madness, and as the two chase each other into the streets, Allister fires on Georgi.

Georgi tries to follow Allister on his tracks, and somehow loses him. Before long he finds himself in front of Agnes's apartment. Bloodied and almost fainting, he collapses in Agnes's bed, only to wake up on hearing Agnes keying the lock of her door at which he springs back from the bed thinking he would confront Allister. Instead he falls into the hands of his girl.

Georgi told the authorities that besides his physical condition Allister was mentally demented, and that Jack's exploitation of his obsessively psychotic behavior had finally led to the murder, and the attempt on his life. After two weeks of testimonials and court briefings, the jury finally decided that Allister be kept in judicial custody in a Detention Center, while Jack was convicted of conspiracy and masterminding the murder - a sentence for 10 years. As Allister leaves, he hands Agnes a red rag doll, "She used to look like this, so pretty she was.... I will go to her someday and tell her how much she meant to me."

Georgi, with mixed emotions, looks on as he sees his brother being taken away. A slight stroke of tenderness reminds him of Agnes close by, and he looks at her, as she returns his lovelorn gaze, and for a minute they forget everything entwined in each others arms. Georgi, fighting back tears, holds her face to him and buries his mouth in hers, trying to bury the double pain of the loss of a dearest friend and a brother.

It was sunset and the kids gathered together; Georgi and Agnes lay the foundation for a monument they would build as a dedication to Anne. They renew their pledge to fight for what Anne stood by, they would shine the torch, the ray of hope for those who felt lost and defeated. Together they would create a haven of peace and love, where learning shone as bright as Athena, and would shower her glory on them. For Georgi and Agnes, it was a summer that had scorched their loveliest flower, but the heavens would bloom again, their Eden would remember the good and grow on, culling out the weeds of the past, bringing hope and light once more.....

---The End

I hope Summer in Heaven had been an enjoyable reading experience. I look forward to your reviews. I can be reached at smitha631@hotmail.com, Best regards, Smitha

"The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams"

- Eleanor Roosevelt

NEWS AND BLUES

IS LOOKING FOR NEW STAFF for 2003-04.

IF YOU HAVE GOOD WRITING SKILLS AND/OR FEEL COMFORTABLE WORKING WITH QUARK/PHOTOSHOP/and other computer programs please apply to

gso@ic.sunysb.edu

Letter to the Editor:

by Dr. Kevin Kelly

It was sad to learn that the graduate student activity fee was not passed in last month's election, apparently due to dissatisfaction with the Graduate Student Organization by some of its constituencies.

I have been involved with the GSO for many years, in a number of different capacities. The organization has a proud tradition of being a vital and effective voice for graduate students at Stony Brook on wide variety of academic and quality of life issues. It also holds an equally long standing reputation for being both mercurial and cantankerous.

I do not think that these aspects of GSO are unrelated. It not easy to accommodate a diversity of cultures, but it is even more difficult is to accommodate a diversity of ideas. GSO has never shrunk from the challenge of trying to encompass the many different cultures and perspectives that are embodied in our graduate student com-

munity. Effective compromise and accommodation comes about not by casting aside a minority point of view, but by allowing it to be represented, debated, and included in the organization as a whole.

Although I am not familiar with the specific issues that may have led to the ballot rejection of GSO's activity fee, I hope that it is only a temporary part of the ongoing organizational learning process, which continues to bring together students and ideas that would otherwise exist in mutual isolation and ignorance of each other.

Coincidentally, there now appears to be a wonderful opportunity to advance the mission of GSO in the creation of a new Graduate Student Lounge to replace "the Spot". Thanks to the efforts of many people over the last two years, the prime location in a part of the Union Ballroom, facing the entrance to the new stadium, is more than could ever have been imagined when I was a graduate student at Stony Brook. I can think of no other campus in which such a desirable location and such generous funding has been offered to support the graduate governance association.

I would encourage all members of GSO to actively pro-

vide input into the planning and policy making for the new Graduate Student Lounge. Only by having and utilizing such input will it be possible for the new venue to serve a broad spectrum of the graduate student community. What better way to avoid unnecessary future expressions of intolerance, such as the rejection of the activity fee, than to assure that there is wide participation in all important aspects of the Graduate Student Organization?

We all look forward to GSO continuing its wonderful and effective tradition, although necessarily bumpy at times, to understand, accommodate, and represent the diverse needs of a remarkably diverse graduate student community.

Dr. Kevin Kelly
Executive Director
Stony Brook Faculty Student Association

The writer served as Vice President and President of the Graduate Student Organization in 1985 and 1986.

by Smitha

Did ya Know?

Q.1. Which is the World's most valuable teddy bear?

A.1. At the Teddies de l'An 2000 auction in Monaco in October 2000, a Steiff teddy bear dressed in Louis Vuitton clothes fetched an amazing \$198,256. The 17 inch tall (43 cm tall) bear has joined arms and legs and is made of the finest mohair. Signed by the President of Steiff, the teddy bear was bought by industrialist Jesse Kim of Korea.

Q.2. Which is the US State with the most Sandhill cranes?

A.2. For around five weeks each spring, Nebraska is the resting place for 400,000 to 500,000 sandhill cranes. That's about 75% of the world's sandhill crane population! As part of their annual migration, these birds arrive from Texas, New Mexico, California, and Arizona to feed and rest along a 150 mile of the Platte river between Grand Isle and Sutherland. Residents celebrate their arrival during the Wing Ding celebration in Clay Center.

Q.3. Which is the World's hottest inhabited place?

A.3. Djibouti, the capital of the republic of Djibouti is located in the continent of Africa. During the hottest months, which are from May to September, the monthly average temperature can reach 99 deg F, the cool season seeing temperatures as high as 85 deg F. With little rainfall, the main source of the nation's water is the Houmboulli river which flows underground.

Q.4. Which is the World's tallest active volcano?

A.4. The Guallatiri volcano towers an amazing 19,918 feet (6.071m) into the sky. That means it is approximately 132 times taller than the Statue of Liberty. Located in Northern Chile, near the border of Bolivia, its last eruption took place in 1987, causing little disturbance. Guallatiri is classified as a stratovolcano, which means it is made from exploded cinder, ash and lava flows.

Q.5. Which is the World's smallest fish?

A.5. Measuring only 13 mm long at the most, the Dwarf Pygmy Goby is the smallest fish in the world. It is also one of the smallest living animals with a backbone. Unlike most gobies, this species lives in freshwater, and can be found mostly in the Philippines. These fish must however return to salt water to breed and hatch their eggs. Gobies usually lay only a few eggs, and sometimes care briefly for their young, which are called ipon.

Courtesy:

Scholastic Book of World Records

Puzzeltime?!@\$\$&



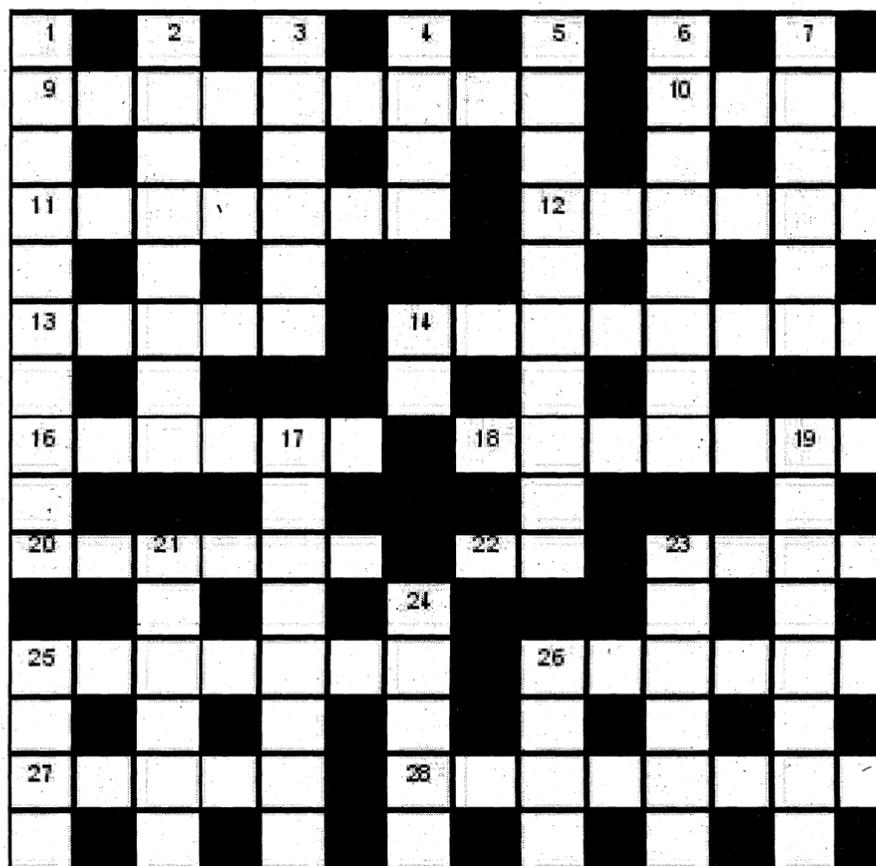
What was the nervous dog doing while his owner was asleep?

D G E R N P P Y R I A A
----- for his -----

Open Mic Night@ Full Moon Cafe!
Got a song in your heart or a poem in your soul?
Come on out & share the fun Monday nights at the Full Moon Cafe!

Across from the SB train station, it features the best pizza & salads as well as the closest martinis to our campus.

Crossword Treat!



Across

9. Outstanding (9)
 10. Artery (5)
 11. Hot Regions (7)
 12. Work (7)
 13. Desire Another's (5)
 16. Words of a Song (6)
 18. Lover's Music (8)
 20. Disrespectful Humor (6)
 22. Present (2)
 23. Upheaval (5)
 25. Cure (7)
 26. Invest (7)
 27. Faith (5)
 28. Movie _____'s List (9)
- Down
1. Of the male organ (10)
 2. Gun (8)
 3. Run fast (6)
 4. Girl (4)
 5. Witnesses (10)
 6. Lecture at Length (8)
 7. Unit of Communication (6)
 8. Move Smoothly (4)
 14. Thus (2)
 15. Holmes' Phrase (10)
 17. Drains (8)

Simone Hayat

19. Sprays (8)
21. Muscular (6)
23. Kneeling (6)
24. Encase (5)
25. Compassion (4)
26. City of the Middle East (4)

TODAY'S CHALLENGE: 14 ACROSS
Solutions to Last Week's Crossword
Puzzle:

1.Fertile, 5. Trumpet, 9. Escalator, 10. Drive, 11. Crest, 12. Important, 14. Asian, 16. Duress, 19. Tavern, 21. Pilot, 26. ILLOGICAL, 28. Niche, 29. Plato, 30. Gratitude, 32. Retinue, 33. Entreat.
1.Fleece, 2. Rickets, 3. Islet, 4. Entail, 5. Tar, 6. Under, 7. Private, 8. Treatise, 13. Pi, 15. Air, 17. Union, 18. Stripper, 20. Valiant, 22. Occlude, 23. AC, 24. Cleave, 25. Select, 27. Grown, 30. GRE, 31. Int,

Solutions to Last Week's Puzzeltime:
Eternal, Mistress

The 2003 Stony Brook Film Festival!

The 2003 Stony Brook Festival will be presented from July 16 through July 26. We are planning a spectacular line-up of the seasons best foreign and art films, along with the newest Independent films available. As in previous festivals there will be a short film shown before most features. The Independent features and the short films will be in competition for festival awards given out at our closing night reception on Saturday, July 26.

The entire film line-up will be announced on Saturday, May 17, and passes good for every screening will go on sale at that time for last year's low price of \$40 per pass. Your low priced Festival Pass includes all films and a passholders-only reception on July 19. For a nominal charge of \$10 you can add the Closing Night Awards Reception, where you can mingle with the filmmakers who made this year so special. Passes and party/reception tickets are limited, so purchase them early and let us once again take you on an unforgettable journey into the art of film. You can purchase through our secure on-line box office at <http://stonybrookfilmfestival.com>

Money and influence: the uncertain future of the GSO

by Dr. Lawrence Martin, Dean of the Graduate School

In the run up to the recent GSO elections, it became clear that there exist some real concerns about the way that the GSO serves its members. Particularly clear evidence for this came from the fact that a referendum on the mandatory/voluntary nature of the student activity fee was on the ballot as the result of a petition, even though in 2002 the fee was approved for four years. The result of the ballot was that the fee will not be mandatory in Fall 2003 and the finances of the GSO may be very different than this year. I am concerned about this aspect of the election, but I am even more deeply concerned about the implications of this vote for the effectiveness of the GSO as a student governance body and as an effective advocate for graduate students.

Several individuals and organizations raised questions concerning the validity of the referendum on the activity fee. Having taken advice from the University Counsel, I feel that the referendum was carried out in accordance with the trustees' policies so that the result stands: the graduate student activity fee (currently about \$20 per semester) will be Voluntary beginning Fall, 2003. The impact of this upon GSO's finances is hard to predict as it may be that large numbers of students elect to pay the fee or that large numbers opt out. Until the GSO decides how to collect the voluntary fee and has some results to work with the impact is hard to estimate but it seems safe to assume that funds available to GSO will decline as the result of this decision.

How bad will it be if the GSO has less money? Many of the students who opposed the fee had concerns about either budget decisions made by the GSO or with its adoption of a position on the war in Iraq. I have always told people who don't like the things that the GSO does to get involved and to change them, but this was not the strategy adopted by those who were dissatisfied with GSO. Now that the results are in, I wonder if these individuals actually wanted what they got. For my part, I want the GSO to have money because I think that this is essential for it to do the things that GSO should do: support activities for graduate students run by clubs and organizations, support student participation in meetings and conferences through the RAP program and to run a graduate student lounge that will serve as a social venue for large numbers of graduate students.

During the past year, an agreement has been reached to relocate the lounge to purpose-built space carved out of the old Union ballroom. It will provide a central location with indoor and outdoor seating for a coffee/tea shop and for a bar. I think that this venue will increase opportunities for graduate students to interact with faculty informally after seminars, defenses etc. in ways that will enrich the lives and work of students at the University. It will be a pity if the new lounge cannot develop to serve graduate student needs because GSO lacks the funds to get and keep things going. The RAP program has enabled hundreds of students to present their

work at professional meetings. RAP is partly funded with graduate activity fees, but these fees are matched by many administrators and programs on campus to give the RAP program many more dollars than those contributed by the students. Unless the current level of fee payment is sustained, RAP will be a shadow of this year's program, and that will be a big loss. Notwithstanding the concerns about particular funding decisions, the support that GSO provides for graduate student events has enabled many of these in the past and has certainly enriched campus life. It may be that some events will get more money by soliciting students directly but the menu of events will be reduced and fewer people will find programs that appeal to them, this will also diminish the quality of life for graduate students.

"To undermine the graduate student governance at Stony Brook University does not serve the graduate students well and is a negative consequence that is out of any proportion to saving \$20 per semester or as a way to indicate displeasure with the GSO's actions in 2002-03... I fear that the recent decision will weaken the GSO as a representative organization and that will diminish the influence of the GSO, and graduate students as a whole, on campus decision making."

Will GSO still speak for graduate students? The GSO gives graduate students excellent access to administrators at the University and this enables them to be sure that their concerns are heard. The GSO Executive Council meets most semesters with the University President and the issues raised with her always receive a response. I meet with the GSO whenever they wish and many administrators attend the GSO Senate when requested. These meetings led to the new plans for a graduate student lounge, ensured that technology fees paid by graduate students were used to provide technology specifically for graduate students and many other gains. It is my understanding that, under its current constitution, membership in the GSO results from the payment of the activity fee. Right now, GSO speaks for all graduate students on campus and that voice is always taken seriously. If fewer students pay the voluntary fee then GSO will be a spokesperson for its membership, more like a large club than a graduate student government. As the Graduate Student Government, GSO appoints graduate student representatives to numerous

committees that make decisions that affect all of your lives and educations. If in future the GSO speaks for only a subset of the students then your voices will not be heard so clearly. If the GSO does not speak for all graduate students, then why should it select student membership for University committees? Perhaps this problem could be addressed by changing the GSO constitution so that all graduate students continue to be members but that would not be fair. We'd all love to live in a world where taxes were low and services were excellent but we're smart enough to realize that things cost money and you have to be willing to pay for what you want.

I believe that graduate students need a strong voice with University Governance and administration. I think that graduate students need the RAP program, a lounge to call their own and support for graduate student led activities. I also think that the GSO has to listen to its membership and do its best to represent and to serve the wishes of all of its members, not just the majority. I think that the mandatory fee opponents need to think about what they have done in voting down the fee and to consider if this is a situation that they want to continue. The right for students to participate in decision making at universities was earned over decades and should not be thrown away lightly. To undermine the graduate student governance at Stony Brook University does not serve the graduate students well and is a negative consequence that is out of any proportion to saving \$20 per semester or as a way to indicate displeasure with the GSO's actions in 2002-03.

As voters in these elections and referendums you exercised rights won by several generations of students and you therefore have responsibility to act in a way that will benefit future generations of Stony Brook graduate students as well as yourselves.

I think that a mandatory fee is an essential piece of this picture. I told the incumbent executives that I felt that their office required them to canvass actively in support of this and that any other position was incompatible with their serving as an office of the GSO. I will tell the new officers my views on this when they take office. I hope that the graduate student community and the GSO will consider what lessons have been learned from the dissatisfactions that led to this vote and will find a way to address these so that a referendum can be held in the Fall 2003 to restore the mandatory fee to enable GSO to act for and to serve all graduate students at Stony Brook. Some might feel that it would suit the administration to have weak and non representative graduate student government but that is not my view. I welcome the active involvement of graduate student government in helping to make Stony Brook a better place for all of us. I fear that the recent decision will weaken the GSO as a representative organization and that will diminish the influence of the GSO, and graduate students as a whole, on campus decision making.

Summer Fun Ideas on Lon Gisland

by Pegine Walrad

Local Vineyards worth the trip:

Pugliese Vineyards* (My personal Favorite)

www.pugliesevineyards.com Main Road, Cutchogue, Long Island, NY 11935 (631) 734-4057

Pindar Vineyards

www.pindar.net Main Road (25) P.O. Box 332 Peconic, (631) 734-6200

(Also have a store on Main Street in Port Jefferson.)

Gristina Vineyards

www.gristinawines.com 24385 Main Road Cutchogue, (631) 734-7089

Martha Clara Vineyards

www.marthaclaravineyards.com, 6025 Sound Avenue, Riverhead, (631) 298-5502

Macari Vineyards

www.macariwines.com, Bergen Avenue, Matituck, NY (631) 298-0100

Overpriced ones to avoid: (again, my personal opinion...)

The Lenz Vineyard and Winery

Used to have a tremendous Gewurztraminer, but has gone downhill overall

Osprey's Dominion Vineyard

Has a great spiced wine, but can be overpriced.

Peconic Bay Vineyards

Couldn't find anything here I could justify buying...

Winery Events this Summer

Σ Pindar Vineyard:

Main Road (25) P.O. Box 332 Peconic, (631) 734-6200

Saturday and Sunday, September 21st thru October 13th

Live Music on the Pavilion Overlooking the Vineyard

Bring your picnic lunch -Admission Free - 1 - 5 PM

Saturday and Sunday, October 19 & 20 from 12 noon to 5pm

15TH ANNUAL HARVEST FESTIVAL

Σ Martha Clara Vineyard:

June 21st Time: 12:00-3:00pm

Fauna Restaurant Presents Worldwide Cuisine Cooking Demonstration

July 12 -August, Opening Reception: July 12, 2003 Time: 5:00-9:00pm

Art Exhibit: The Hemingway African Gallery's 35-year collection

July 5th Time: 6:00-10:00pm

2nd Year Birthday Celebration at Martha Clara Vineyards - Live Music.

July 12th Time: 12:00-3:00pm

Fauna Restaurant Presents Worldwide Cuisine Cooking Demonstration

"Making Fresh Mozzarella" with Executive Chef Mark Mittleman

July 19th Time: 5:30-8:00pm

Anything but Merlot and Chardonnay

August 9th Time: 12:00-3:00pm

Fauna Restaurant Presents Worldwide Cuisine Cooking Demonstration

"Sushi-Making" with Executive Chef Mark Mittleman

August 16th & 17th Time: 1:00-5:00pm

Picnic on the Patio at Martha Clara Vineyards

August 23rd Time: 12:00-3:00pm

Fauna Restaurant Presents Worldwide Cuisine Cooking Demonstration

"South American Dishes" with Executive Chef Mark Mittleman

August 30th Time: 1:00-5:00pm

Annual Pig Roast

September 13th & 14th Time: 1:00-5:00pm

3rd Annual Oktoberfest at Martha Clara Vineyards

Weekends in October

Harvest Festival

Σ Paumanok Vineyard:

1074 Main Road (Route 25) P.O. Box 741, Aquebogue, Phone: (631) 722-8800

Saturday, July 12, 2003

GUITARIST BUCKY PIZZARELLI TO STAR

Σ Palmer Vineyard:

Aquebogue, Phone: (631) 722-9463

Saturdays from July 12th through August 23rd

Perfect Pairs Chef Series

Saturday August 16, 2003

Perfect Pairs Wine Dinner

May 17th and 18th

Annual Yard Sale Sunday June 29, 2003 Writers on the Vine

Head East Young Grad!

Long Island Vineyards – an afternoon's adventure

Want an alternate local activity for visiting relatives/friends this summer?

A wine enthusiast's delight awaits you at the East end of Long Island!

Though open year round – the summertime presents a perfect opportunity to truly take in the beauty, fragrances and extraordinary tastes the vineyards offer. One of the strongest and most up & coming wine areas in the country, it's current growth presents an exciting opportunity to watch favorite local vineyards develop & mature along with your graduate career.

Pindar vineyard, the island's first, and most famous winery is now accompanied by over 25 others!

My personal favorite is Pugliese vineyard. Most noted for its unique sparkling Merlot, I prefer the vineyard's whites as well as full bodied reds to any other on the island. The prices are at "best buy" value and on a graduate income – we all can appreciate a good deal! Everyone I've taken to various wineries up & down our Lon Gisland coasts has agreed – this is the best bet.

From a French-speaking German Sheperd at Gristina vineyards (which offers one of the best Chardonnays on the island) to the evening music and special events, the vineyards offer an entertainment opportunity that'll impress and charm even the most finicky of relatives. Gets them out of your house before they notice you haven't dusted since your qualifier!

There are many festivals planned for this season and the owners take particular care to seek out and maintain loyal patrons. In fact, the owners of one of the vineyards graduated from the Oenology class offered each fall through the Biochemistry department & taught by our very own Drs. Harvard Lyman, Eugene Katz, and Mary Benero. Those interested in expanding their wine knowledge and their palates should seriously consider taking this worthwhile course. Available in the Fall semester, it has spawned many aspiring viticulturists, and even more grad wine tasting parties!

For more information & directions check out www.liwines.com/ - enjoy!

Long Island Hiking – Trekking the Paumanok Path

A 125 mile hiking path from Rocky Point to Montauk Point Travels through Brookhaven, Riverhead, Southampton, and East Hampton. where you can find wildlife, many species of plants, and outstanding views. It's the perfect opportunity to experience quiet, unhurried peace and a day's adventure.

You'll hike through Pine Barrens forests, along ponds, beautiful ancient glacial boulders, kettle-holes, marshes, bays, harbors, and the Atlantic Ocean. Most importantly, respect & cherish our natural resources so that future generations can also experience them! **Don't litter or be irresponsible with fire while on the trails.**

Local hiking clubs offer guided hikes on the Path:

The Long Island Greenbelt Trail Conference 360-0753

The Southampton Trails Preservation Society 537-5202

The East Hampton Trails Preservation Society 329-4227

Group for the South Fork 537-1400

If you see illegal activities, call the 24-hour hotline: 1-877-BARRENS

HIKING TIPS:

-Decide if you want to go end to end, up and back or on a circular route. End to end hikes may require two cars, one at each end so you can go longer distances and still return to your car.

-Pack water, snacks, insect repellent, a notebook, a camera and a first-aid kit.

-Tuck your socks into pants to prevent ticks, spray insect repellent on pants, check for ticks after the hike. (Remember – Long Island is a hotbed for Lyme's disease!)

-In isolated areas, it may be a good idea to carry a cell phone as insurance if you sprain an ankle or get lost.

-A road atlas is helpful for planning how to get to the trail. You may also find a GPS is fun & useful!

-Have a trail map and compass with you at all times.

-There are many major road crossings. **BE VERY CAREFUL WHEN CROSSING ROADS!** There are four major road-walking areas in Southampton. Use extra caution when walking along roads. Use a street map and printed directions to navigate the roads.

-Be AWARE of bicycles, three wheel terrain vehicles and hunting seasons! Wear red or orange while hiking during hunting season!

-Layered clothing is advised in colder months. As you walk, your body warms up.

-Don't go alone - bring friends.

Summer Hiking Events & Contacts:

May 17, Saturday, 10AM: Dogwood Hike (3-4 miles) Leader: Lee Dion 324-5073

-May 21, Wednesday, 10AM: Laurel Canyon (3-4 miles). Leader: Ed Porco 668-2093

-May 24, Saturday, 10AM: Wainscott Dual

Distance (4 or 8 miles). Leader: Richard Lupoletti 324-1127

May 25, Sunday, 10AM: Memorial Hike & Picnic (3 miles) Leaders: Melissa Butensky and Sam Kaplan 267-1068

9AM: Northwest Woods- White Pines and Blue Water: (7 miles)

Leader: Rick Whalen 267-6608

-May 28, Wednesday, 10AM: Jacob's Farm Plus (2+ miles) Leader: Nancy Kane 324-5799

May 31, Saturday, 10AM: Wainscott Historic Hike (2-3 miles) Leader: Hilary Osborn Malecki 324-9737

For more information contact:

<http://www.paumanokpath.org>

or <http://www.hike-li.com/>

The Paumanok Path – maps available at EMS at Smithhaven Mall

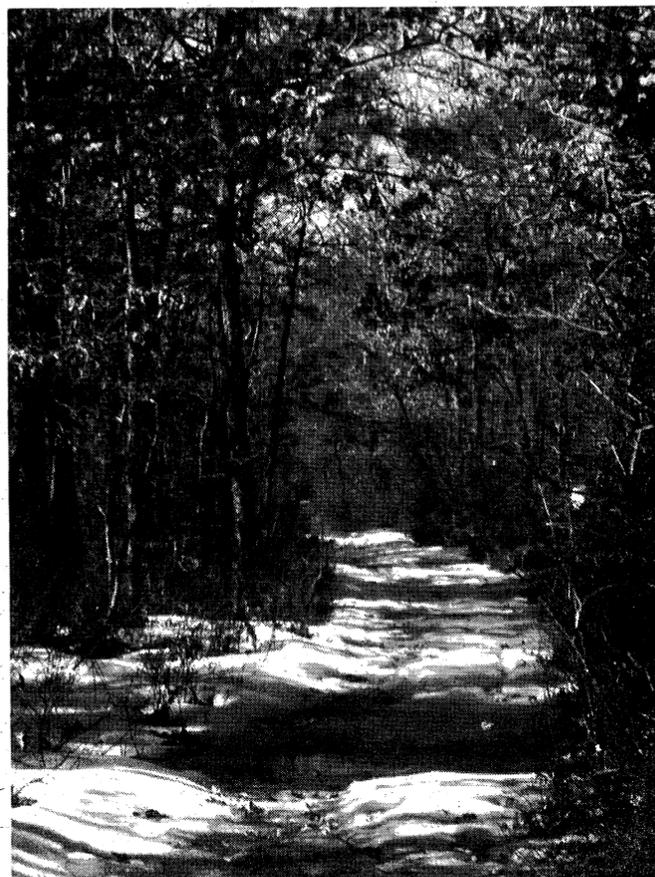
April to October, you can get more information at the Pine Barrens Trail Information Center in Manorville near exit 70 of the LIE Call 369-0753

Also Worth the Trek:

Mashomack's Preserve - Nature Conservancy

Shelter Island – Just a Ferry-ride away out of Greenport

<http://nature.org/wherewework/northamerica/states/newyork/southfork>



Police Censorship Strikes Campus Theater Again *Shopping & Fucking* – which word is obscene ???

by Petra Lammers

"America – the land of the free. Land of free speech, right of free expression, and uncountable possibilities..."

Often, especially in the last months, I heard these words within long patriotic explanations driven by unbreakable conviction. Each time I found myself trying to defeat the argument; open people's eyes; explain that there is more to this country than just the governmental-ly and press- promoted glory of it. But my arguments were without foundation. My reasoning was clouded by the fear I know many foreigners have of speaking their minds in the streets. The difficulty the arts have of speaking up in order not to lose their funding. The hushing and whispering I hear Americans do when talking about politics in public places... all behavior based on fear. Which, from my experience, had no basis. But, here we go! A week before I am leaving this country, I suddenly receive a base for my argument. I directed the "Shopping & Fucking" production that took place last weekend at the Fannie Brice Theater at the Spot. The play is by a young British author and speaks very harshly and critically against the capitalistic-grab-grab-culture. It is set in a west-end homosexual youth culture –hence the "fucking" reference.

In the course of promoting the play, via flyers on the designated boards and postcards given into people's hands, I not only had people (who seemed to have a problem with the latter word of the title) take the flyers down consistently, but also, the police sought me - for littering! Now, alright, despite the millions and millions of other flyers all over campus, and disregarding the fact that I only handed out about 700 flyers total, littering is a solid idea for a claim. But then – because the 'littering problem' could not hold much ground (maybe because there was none?) – two officers turned for help to the

Chair of my department, asking him – respectfully – who the person might be who distributed these OBSCENE flyers. (It seems the police are rather disorganized in their Mafioso operations.) Now my Chair – a wonderful, open man – asked surprised: "Which word is obscene? The first one? Or the second one?" The officers had nothing more to say to him, and instead mailed an official letter to my supervisor.

Angry about the hypocrisy and false accusations the police were willing to make in order to control their 'turf' and make this campus even more puritan than it is already, I found myself wandering around campus, watching carefully that no cop should see me handing out flyers to my play. A play not the least obscene or offensive to the great Christian ruling of this country IF such critics had bothered to see it. Freedom of speech?!? You may speak... as long as it is according to the enforced puritan rules of the religious right, as long as it doesn't say anything against the flag,



Hinde Liepmannsohn from *Shopping and Fucking*, courtesy of Petra Lammers

as long as it doesn't offend the invisible structure that holds the hypocritical "moral" system together and leaves this country's inhabitants ignorant of their own world. All this executed by people who naively and truly believe that their country is the most open and progressive in the world... where are we?

Please, open your mouth and speak – the world suffers.

Polity Task Force Findings: SB Administration Illegally Seized Undergraduate \$\$\$

By Bryan Field, Chair, GSO's Polity Fact Finding Task Force

The following document highlights the finding of the Polity Fact-Finding Task Force.

Executive Summary: The evidence presented to the Polity Fact-Finding Task Force shows that the Graduate Student Organization on behalf of the Student Polity Association in the New York Supreme Court warrants the filing of an Amicus Brief. It would appear that several illegal infractions occurred against the Student Polity Association over the past year, and our support is needed in this matter. Details: In essence, there were eight points that were presented to the Task Force that lead us to believe that the actions against the Student Polity Association were illegal. Already one motion has been filed in Supreme Court of New York, Suffolk County (Index Number 0306551) on this matter.

To truly understand the problems involved with Student Polity, it is important to know that Student Polity Association is a corporation under New York State Law (just like the Graduate Student Organization). The elected officers serve as the executives of the corporation and senators act as a Board of Directors for the corporation. As a corporation, the bylaws of Student Polity act as Articles of Corporation and as a corporation Student Polity enjoys several protections under New York State Law beyond the reaches of the Stony Brook administration.

The eight points that were presented to the Task Force were as follows:

1. Student Polity Association was placed in an illegal receivership on October 10, 2001. Polity is a corporation in the State of New York and can only be placed in receivership by a Judge in a court of law. Any and all spending of the undergraduate student activity fee while Student Polity is in an illegal receivership is in essence an act of fraud under New York State Law and is in direct contradiction to the Chancellor's Guidelines on how student activity fees must be allocated. It appears that all the mechanisms that are in place to keep events like this from happening were sidestepped.
2. After seizing the student activity fee, the signatories on the accounts of the Student Polity Association were changed to allow people other than the elected officers to authorize the release of student activity funds. A police report was filed over this matter (Stony Brook Police Report 02-14058).
3. As Student Polity is a corporation under New York State Law, the removal of elected officials from power amounts to dissolving the board of directors of a corporation without a stockholder vote. It is illegal to interfere with the operations of a corporation.
4. After the dissolution of Polity, open meeting laws were violated when several students were told that they could not attend meetings to revise the old Student Polity constitution. The administration claims that they are protected under one of the eight clauses where open meeting laws do not apply in New York State by declaring themselves in an advisory role. However, the drafting of a new constitution hardly seems to constitute an advisory position.
5. Under the corporate bylaws of Student Polity, all records are to be made as public as soon as legally possible. In a 1996 ruling in the NY Supreme Court (*Statesman v. Student Polity*) it was ruled that universities are obliged to release information under the Freedom of Information Law (FOIL) access. The same attorney who fought for this ruling told our petitioners that Stony Brook is not obliged to work under FOIL access. This attorney could possibly have troubles with the New York State bar over this statement.
6. Illegal elections were allowed to occur to elect a Freshman Class Representative against the wishes of the elected officials.
7. Members of the Board of Directors of Student Polity were intimidated by the administration.
8. There was a campaign of disinformation levied to "inform" the undergraduate student population that Polity had been dissolved. Although a \$300 reward was offered to find out who distributed these flyers, no one ever claimed responsibility.

In conclusion, we find that an Amicus brief is warranted in this case.

Undergraduate Polity History Timeline:

- May 2001** - Polity Judiciary threw out the elections results (including the Recreation Center Vote). Dr. Preston said that this was illegal, and that this was a "University Referendum" and therefore stood outside the authority of the Polity Judiciary. Several (about 1/3) of the votes were invalidated by the Judiciary. This numerically made the Recreation Center vote fail. The number of votes thrown out numerically supports the theory that just enough votes were thrown out to make this vote fail. The votes were thrown out due to problems with the legibility of the ballots (hand-writing problems). Dr. Preston declared the Recreation Center passed despite this and was used in Albany to let the Recreation Center be built.
- Dr. Preston threw out the budget passed during this session, outside the use of a campus review board (which can be used in the event of a line item veto).
- Summer 2001** - Illegally installed executive (installed by decree) ran the student government.
- Fall 2001** - New elections occurred including a run-off for the President. A total of 154 people voted in the run-off. Dr. Preston said that 154 votes were not enough, and threatened to dissolve Polity. Historically, the last run-off in Polity history had a turnout of 134 votes. A typical full voter turnout (non run-off) for a Polity election is about 1000 people in recent years.
- The two people running for President, both declined to take office rather than recognize the authority of Dr. Preston to call for a second run-off election. When this happens, according to the Polity constitution and Robert's Rules, a ?Failure to Elect? was declared. This had the effect of making the Vice-President the President (and VP at the same time). The President was Akelia Lawrence. The Treasurer, Nicholas Kilp, stopped performing his duties. After some time, the President put some Judiciary nominees forward.
- Dr. Preston only would release one-quarter of the Student Activity Fee.
- Spring 2002** - A Judiciary, nominated by the council, and elected by the senate was installed. All three branches were there and functioning. All the problems were addressable at this point. The feeling was that although there were problems between the groups, things were working for instance and budgets were passed.
- Dr. Preston insisted that the bylaws be changed and he placed the Student Activity Fee under Receivership. This is not in this power to demand. This is supported by the legal opinion of Steven de Castro (Exhibit ??). The legal status of Receivership can only be given by a Judge and is clearly outside the bounds of the Dean of Students of a University.
- Summer 2002** - In order to get the Activity Fee out of Receivership, a group of students and administrators formed a committee to revise the constitution. This process went on all summer. The document was given to President Lawrence. The document presented to the Senate in the Fall was a different document than was prepared in the summer.
- September 2002** - Full senate met and the issue of the constitution was taken up. Various members of the Executive Council continuously disrupted the meetings. It is of the opinion that these interruptions were intentional. Very little progress was made in correcting the constitution due to problems with the chair of the senate. There was a vote of remove the VP as the chair of the senate thus making the revisions to the constitution progress rapidly. This document was given to the executive council a week and a half before Dr. Preston's deadline.
- October 3 2002** - President Lawrence writes a letter to President Kenny saying there were certain negative influences in Polity (the Senate) and asked President Kenny to dissolve the student government. This is a legal problem, because Polity is a corporation.
- October 10 2002** - Letter from Dr. Kenny was received stating that Polity will be dissolved. It is in her power to decertify the student government, but not to dissolve the student government. This is a problem for spending the Student Activity Fee (as per the bylaws), and all the funds should have been frozen. The minute action was taken on this letter; any spending is fraudulent until a new student government was elected.

Food for Grads

by Elizabeth Bojsza

Well, here we are again at the end of the year, and at the end of this food column. And what a better way to end than with dessert? I found this recipe in Linda Rosenswig's Vegetarian & More. The use of frozen, pre-made bread dough makes this an easy recipe-- try it warm with some vanilla ice cream!

Cinnamon Pull-Apart Bread

you will need:

1 pound of frozen bread dough, thawed
1/4 cup packed brown sugar
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1/4 cup honey
2 tablespoons orange juice
1 tablespoon unsalted butter

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Coat a nine or ten inch round cake pan (or any old metal pan you have around-- the difference in size just affects the baking time) with non-stick spray or butter.

Cut the dough into 12 equal pieces. On a large piece of waxed paper, stir together the brown sugar and cinnamon. Roll the dough pieces in the sugar mixture.

Place, with sides touching, in the pan. Cover loosely and let the dough rise in a warm spot for 30 minutes (watch TV or work on your thesis during this time).

In a small saucepan, mix the honey, orange juice, and butter together. Bring just to a boil over medium heat, stirring frequently. Drizzle over the dough.

Bake for 20 to 25 minutes (depending on your pan size) until the bread is golden brown. Cool in the pan for 10 minutes, then remove and place on a platter.

Serve warm, pulling apart the bread with your fingers, and serve with a side of ice cream!

Have a great summer everyone!

Email your favorite recipes to nusnblus@ic.sunysb.edu

Graduate Lounge Moves to Snazzy Locale at Union!

This summer the Northern stretch of the Union Ballroom will undergo a transformation into a custom-built nest for grads. That is... the "Baby Spot" (or so it's been called) shall be born in time to greet the new grads this Fall. (A contest to rename our grad lounge is in the works - a better name than "SPOT" may even be possible!)

MUCH effort and discussion has been at hand not only this year, but for the past 4 years to realize this transition. Financial support from not only the GSO's surplus (\$30,000), but from FSA, the Graduate School, the President's Office, and even Chemistry Professor Michelle Millar has contributed to make this happen.

Ironically, it comes at a time when GSO's financial future is most threatened. Nevertheless, many hope that this new prime real estate will help solve the GSO's "Financial Puzzle" by reducing if not eliminating the burden of the Graduate Lounge subsidy. It is foreseeable that the GSO's initial investment in relocating its Lounge should (and likely will) pay off considerably... some even hope it will eventually help subsidize the graduate student activity fees. (We can dream...)

For now, we should all think and contribute our thoughts and ideas toward what we, as graduate students, want in a Lounge. With so much discussion and criticism of the previous digs, it leaves us the looming question "What DO we want?" Which is not so easily answered as one might think... we are an impoverished, but finicky lot.

The GSO's Lounge Committee has been diligently working to answer this question - considering campus life survey responses, Senator suggestions, employees' and members' experience... we have only ourselves to blame should the result be something we do not absolutely adore. No one place can be everything to everyone, but with a little thought, planning and communication, we can create a flexible space that can be a lot of fun for everyone - and a little corner to call our own. Please get involved to participate in its planning! Construction is set for this summer and plans are getting "set in stone." Negotiations for its liquor license and management are currently under consideration.

Stony Love

by JZ Bich

Q: Dear JZ,

I am a South Asian woman who joined USB some time ago and I still have some time to go before earning my doctorate in MSE. I of course enjoy the time I spend with my lab mates and comrades, but it gets to be the same routine: dinner parties and movie nights. I am feeling the lack of partnership, as here it is called dating. I am not looking to shift from one boy to another, like so many other kind of people do here in the states. I am just looking for someone compatible with which to spend time. My dilemma is that the boys from my region of the world, who are still available, are too much of party animals, only interested in dating outside of our own kind (not brown girls), or are not really available at all. I am also cautious to date American guys or European boys, because they will eventually want to go to bed-I'm just looking to have fun, not a baby.

-To Whom It May Concern

A:

Dear TWMC,

I was very excited to receive your letter. Besides bills, ads and occasional note from my mom I rarely receive mail nowadays. I totally understand your dissatisfaction with the routine, I am not a great fan of it myself. However, you are not looking to shift around either which starts to complicate this situation. I guess I should warn you that every relationship becomes routine after a while, but that's not your concern at the moment so I won't warn you...So, problem with "your" boys is they want something different, not of their own kind...(still human I hope)...or they are not available at all...I think there was a complaint last month about all these guys with girlfriends abroad...Euro Boys and Amero Guys won't do since they want sex...and yes you are right most of American guys and almost all European boys will expect to have sex at some point. I guess, that's what they call cultural differ-

ence. At this point I get confused though, you want to have fun but you don't want to have a baby...is the baby the only reason you don't want sex? If it is, the Infirmary has a GYN clinic where you can buy some condoms and other forms of birth control...it works...trust me...I tried :)

Another option, which I think is fabulous, is hooking up with a girl. If the situation is that bad with girls from your region getting guys, there must be a lot of girls out there looking for partnership. Sex is safe, well much safer and no baby danger. And if you find the right kind of a girl you might even avoid having sex and just hold hands and kiss if that's more up your alley. Anyway, if my attempt to queer you up doesn't sound helpful I can suggest a different advice...open up to guys from any part of the world. Talk to them. Tell them your concerns about sex and pregnancy and hope for the best. If the first one does not work out move to the next. Keep it safe, go for coffee or dinner, don't go for drinking and don't invite them home till you know each other for a while. You can play it safe and still have fun just make your boundaries clear. Even a European boy, American guy or a party animal will have respect for a woman who knows what she wants and when. Never fear expressing yourself.

-JZ

Have a Sexy Summer!

Dear JZBichers...Faithfully yours is moving along and away from Stony Brook to greener pastures of NYC. However, I will still answer your questions every month so write on...don't get discouraged. You can email your questions to nusnblus@ic.sunysb.edu or mail them to News and Blues for JZ Bich, SAC 227, SBU, Stony Brook, NY 11794-2700.

WORLD NEWS

compiled by Smitha

TORNADO RAGE CLAIMS 300 HOMES, NO DEATHS OKLAHOMA CITY

A large tornado skirted Oklahoma City as it hopped along a path of destruction 75 miles long, damaging hundreds of buildings a day after a separate twister tore past the other side of the city, officials said on Saturday. There were no reported fatalities from the Friday night tornado that first touched down northeast of Oklahoma City and traveled east, periodically touching down again to spawn more damage. Five people were hospitalized after the tornado tossed cars along highways and snapped power poles like twigs.

SARS News

Beijing Data on SARS Flawed Beijing's records on SARS cases do not indicate how half of the city's patients caught the highly contagious respiratory illness, and that missing information could seriously hinder efforts to contain the virus, the World Health Organization said Saturday.

Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome has killed more than 520 people around the world and infected almost 7,500 in nearly 30 countries. China and Hong Kong have been hardest hit with 447 deaths and more than 6,550 cases. Right now, the situation is that we have a whole

load of people (in Beijing) and we don't know where they got the disease," WHO spokeswoman Mangai Balasegaram said. "The problem with the data is that there are holes in it."

With Taiwan reporting 23 new cases on Saturday, its largest one-day jump since the outbreak began there two months ago, WHO has lumped Taiwan together with Chinese cities and regions reporting a rapid transmission of severe acute respiratory syndrome. They included Hong Kong, Beijing, the southern province of Guangdong and the northern province of Shanxi.

US TROOPS TO REMAIN IN IRAQ

WASHINGTON — Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld yesterday pledged to keep as many U.S. troops in Iraq as necessary to stabilize the country and said it could take longer than a year to create the conditions necessary for a new Iraqi government to assume control of the nation. Rumsfeld spoke shortly after the United States, Britain and Spain formally presented a draft resolution on Iraq's interim governance to the United Nations Security Council.

The draft calls for the United States and Britain to assume the responsibilities of "occupying powers" under international law. It would grant the two countries

broad authority for managing Iraq's political and economic life, including control over its oil revenue, for an initial period of a year or longer, if necessary.

PRES. BUSH FACES OPPOSITION AT HOME

As President Bush prepared to take the podium at USC's graduation in the Carolina Center, student Amanda Martin rallied her troops in an outdoor alternative ceremony across the street. Martin's slightly wrinkled graduation gown flapped in the breeze as she shouted her protest of the president's visit from atop a large cement planter. "His political stump speech is not welcome at our graduation," Martin said to rousing applause and shouting from the 100 to 125 protesters who joined her. Various fliers, posters and chants accused the president of being soft on education in public policy and in his own life. The recent war, too, was a target.

EVEREST CLEANS GARBAGE

NEW DELHI (Reuters) Once called the world's highest garbage dump, serious efforts have been under way to clear the high mountain slopes of the Everest from tons of garbage left behind by expeditionists. For years, the slopes of the world's highest peak, Mount Everest, were littered with

heaps of oxygen bottles, food packets, tents, batteries and other climbing paraphernalia left behind by mountaineers.

"An estimated minimum of 290 tons and a maximum of 1,115 tons of garbage have been left in the area," Junko Tabei of Japan, the first woman to reach the Everest summit, said in 2000. "Based on the fact that an average of 304 people a year were climbing Everest in the 1990s...the amount of garbage is increasing every year by between 15.5 and 60 tons." But as Nepal gears up to celebrate the 50th anniversary on May 29 of the first Everest ascent, climbers say the Himalayan peak is almost back to its original pristine state, thanks to concerted conservation efforts in recent years.

Gunman Kills one at Cleveland University

CLEVELAND - A camouflage-clad gunman fired hundreds of rounds as he roamed the halls of a university business school, killing one person and wounding others. About 70 people were trapped during the seven-hour standoff before police arrested the suspect. University President Edward Hundert said Saturday that the man arrested is a former Case Western student and former employee who had filed a

lawsuit against the university. His lawsuit was dismissed, and he lost an appeal about a month ago, Hundert said on NBC's "Today" show. He did not identify the man and did not elaborate on the lawsuit.

Iceland Anticipates Elections

REYKJAVIK, Iceland - Europe's longest-serving prime minister faces the strongest challenge of his 12-year rule in Iceland on Saturday from a former Reykjavik mayor seeking to become the nation's first female leader. Seven parties are contesting the elections to choose the 63 members of Parliament. Polls indicate that voters are torn between the economic stability provided by incumbent David Oddsson's conservative Independent Party, and a fresh alternative to his autocratic style offered by the opposition left-leaning Social Alliance, led by charismatic Ingiborg Solrun Gisladottir. Gisladottir, the 48-year-old former mayor of Reykjavik, wants to become the first female prime minister of this nation of 280,000. She has won support from Icelanders who believe the government has grown slack on issues such as welfare, health and housing. There are about 200,000 registered voters.

"NOT ON OUR BACKS"

SUNY Students Hike 561 miles to Protest Tuition Hikes

by Mellissa Moran

In a year of budget woes, students across New York State have mobilized against Governor Pataki's higher education budget proposal. Pataki's "Doomsday budget" includes a \$1,200 tuition hike, 1/3 cuts to TAP, 50% cuts to opportunity programs and a 15% cut to the SUNY operating budget. In response to this devastating budget, NYPIRG organized a 561-mile hike across the state that culminated in a mass rally at the state capitol. The "No Tuition Hike" was a relay march that kicked-off at Stony Brook on February 23 when over twenty-five students walked 22 miles to the Nassau/Suffolk border. Hundreds of other students from SUNY and CUNY picked up the hike at various points heading upstate, while students in Buffalo began an eastbound march, with the two routes converging in Albany on March 11. Three weeks and 561 miles later, thousands of students from SUNY, CUNY and community colleges gathered at the steps of the state capital to deliver their message of "No Tuition Hike,

No Cuts to Higher Education" to Governor Pataki and the State Legislature. Students, Professors, Union Representatives, and Elected officials spoke about the devastating effects the proposed budget will have on the states poorest students. After the rally, students jammed the Governor and the state Legislature's phone lines during a statewide call-in day when over 3,000 calls were made. The GSEU and NYPIRG organized a campus rally addressing additional concerns such as living wages for Teaching Assistants and cuts to the Inter-library loan program. Letter writing, call-in days and campus rallies across the state helped to send the message to Albany that students will not allow the budget to be balanced on their backs.

Currently the Legislature is working on passing their own budget proposal, which restores money cut from TAP, Opportunity Programs, and the SUNY operating budget. Clearly, the student's message has been heard in Albany.

Although these advances are encouraging, Governor Pataki has the ultimate veto power.

The Legislature would need to garner enough support to override the Governor if he vetoes their proposal. To make sure that TA lines are secured and class sizes are kept manageable, we need to contact our representatives in Albany and urge them to stand strong for students. Below are the representatives for the Stony Brook area as well as the members of the Higher Education Committee. Call them today and thank them for their support and urge them to continue to fight for students. Governor Pataki-- 518-474-8390 Senator Flanagan--518-455-2071 Senator LaValle (Senate Higher Ed. Chair)-- 518-455-3121 Assemblymember Levy--518-455-4784 Assmeblymember Englebright-- 518-455-4804 Assemblymember Canestrari (Assembly Higher Ed Chair)-- 518-455-4474

Campus Life Survey results:

'Taking everything into account, if you had the chance to make the decision over again, would you come to Stony Brook?'

Only 35% of graduate students replied they would.

The administrative powers that be have yet to give the go-ahead to release this survey results to the public, perhaps due to some seriously embarrassing results... but here's some "unofficial" highlights:

General Satisfaction with University Services and Housing

(Service Users Only) Very satisfied Somewhat satisfied Not very/not satisf.

	Very satisfied	Somewhat satisfied	Not very/not satisf.
Dining Services (78%)			
Food quality	16	51	32
On-campus residents (11)	(49)	(40)	(40)
Off-campus residents (20)	(53)	(24)	(24)
Food variety	17	44	37
Hours*	35	47	15
Location*	60	31	7
Health Services			
Infirmery Overall (58%)	38	36	23
Infirmery hours	29	48	16
Health Insurance Office (34%)	36	35	30
Book Store / Store			
West campus (76%)	30	56	11
Health Sciences (38%)	46	37	6
SeaWolves Marketplace (54%)	41	41	13
Housing			
Current Living Situation	38	38	23
On-campus residents (14)	(48)	(38)	(38)
Off-campus residents (58)	(29)	(11)	(11)
Overall Quality of Life	28	55	16
On-campus residents (17)	(62)	(19)	(19)
Off-campus residents (36)	(50)	(13)	(13)

Note: Entries are percentages. (%) in the first column indicates the percent of students who have ever used the service. * asked about convenience not satisfaction.

SPOTLight: GSO BUDGET

Answering the concerns of many who had questions regarding how the GSO's Budget Committee operated and how decisions regarding spending our graduate student activity fees were managed, current GSO Treasurer Bryan Fields has submitted the Bylaws of the Budget Committee, as well as next year's proposed Budget. Please take a moment to examine them – despite their length it is a worthwhile, relevant read that directly effects your life here at Stony Brook whether you are aware of it or not. Particularly in times of tight budgets – each paying graduate should be aware of how & where their money is being spent. It sheds light on what events can be funded by the GSO legally & which ones cannot, and gives instructions on how to apply for such funding. This information can save event planners LOTS of time and common trouble!

For more Budgetary information check out: <http://moya.ic.sunysb.edu/clubs/gso/budgets/budgets.htm>

Here is an excerpt from the GSO's Budget Committee Guidelines to help guide grads thru the red tape when seeking financial support:

GRADUATE STUDENT ORGANIZATION PROPOSED FOUR MONTH INTERIM BUDGET (JULY 1 - NOVEMBER 1 2003)

Budget Outline

	Without Fee	With Fee
Income		
Activity Fee	\$50,000.00	\$190,599.00
Interest	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
Graduate School RAP Grant	\$4,750.00	\$9,500.00
Research Foundation RAP Grant	\$4,000.00	\$8,000.00
President's Office RAP Grant	\$4,750.00	\$9,500.00
College of Arts and Sciences RAP Grant	\$1,500.00	\$3,000.00
Cabaret Club	\$1,800.00	\$1,800.00
Misc. Income	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Total Income	\$69,800.00	\$225,399.00
Expenses		
Operational Expenses		
GSO Office	\$1,833.33	\$4,500.00
Office Equipment & Supplies (Pro)	\$1,000.00	\$3,000.00
Telephone (Pro)	\$333.33	\$1,000.00
Insurance (Full)	\$500.00	\$500.00
Payroll	\$10,266.67	\$30,800.00
Officer Stipends (Pro)	\$5,333.33	\$16,000.00
Officer Manager and Assistant (Pro)	\$4,333.33	\$13,000.00
Payroll Tax/Insurance (Pro)	\$600.00	\$1,800.00
Accounting	\$8,500.00	\$16,500.00
C & D Agent (Pro)	\$4,000.00	\$12,000.00
Auditor (Full)	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00
Internal GSO Functions	\$333.33	\$4,600.00
Elections (None)	\$-	\$500.00
Meetings (None)	\$-	\$1,700.00
GSO Sponsored Advertisements (None)	\$-	\$200.00
World Wide Web Page (None)	\$-	\$700.00
Travel (None)	\$-	\$500.00
Miscellaneous Expense (Pro)	\$333.33	\$1,000.00
Total Operational Expenses	\$20,933.33	\$56,400.00
Program Expenses		
GSO Publications	\$7,250.00	\$12,500.00
Survival Guide	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00
Editor (Full)	\$500.00	
Printing (Full)	\$3,000.00	
Newspaper (5 Issues)	\$2,083.33	\$5,000.00
Editorial Staff (5 Issues)	\$1,666.67	\$4,000.00
Contributions and Public Service	\$9,707.32	\$31,800.00
Orientation (Full)	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
Faculty Staff Retreat (None)	\$-	\$250.00
NYPIRG (Pro, Based On Income)	\$3,658.54	\$13,000.00
WUSB (Pro)	\$1,000.00	\$3,000.00
Child Care (Pro, Based On Income)	\$3,048.78	\$12,000.00
Volunteer Ambulance Corps (Pro)	\$500.00	\$1,500.00
NSGPS (None)	\$-	\$300.00
Campus Life Awards (None)	\$-	\$250.00
Program Funding	\$20,666.67	\$92,000.00
Student Clubs and Organizations (Pro)	\$1,500.00	\$4,500.00
General Cultural and Social Events (Pro)	\$5,000.00	\$15,000.00
Speaker Series and Conferences (Pro)	\$2,166.67	\$6,500.00
Student Publications (Pro)	\$333.33	\$1,000.00
Departmental Allocations (Pro)	\$1,666.67	\$5,000.00
Resource Access Project (RAP) (Pro, \$15K GSO)	\$10,000.00	\$60,000.00
General Service	\$11,800.00	\$36,600.00
The SPOT (the Graduate Student Lounge)		
Subsidy (Pro)	\$10,000.00	\$28,000.00
Graduate Bash	\$-	\$4,000.00
Spring Fest	\$-	\$2,800.00
Cabaret Club	\$1,800.00	\$1,800.00
Total Program Expenses	\$49,423.98	\$172,900.00
Total Operational Expenses	\$20,933.33	\$56,400.00
Total Expenses	\$70,357.32	\$229,300.00
Total Income	\$69,800.00	\$225,399.00
Total Expenses	\$70,357.32	\$229,300.00
Projected Deficit	(\$557.32)	(\$3,901.00)

Program Funding from GSO

The GSO provides money and support for a wide variety of social organizations and events for the purpose of enhancing graduate students' social interaction and development. In particular, the GSO provides for Student Clubs and Organizations, General Cultural and Social Events, Speaker Series & Conferences and Student Publications.

Program funding is designed to increase social, educational and on-campus directed activities. These funds will be available to groups of graduate students who wish to provide events that are well planned, well advertised and of general interest to the entire graduate student community. Money from these categories will not be allocated for the following:

- Σ Events that do not have a graduate student presence in attendance
 - Σ Events not open to all graduate students
 - Σ Funding for food except under an amount specified in the current GSO budget.
- Funds must be requested during the fiscal year that the event will be held from the current GSO Treasurer.

Events must be advertised in English, this means that the date, time, location, sponsoring group (including the GSO), and title of the event must be in English. Other information included on the advertisement may be in any language.

In each request for funding there must exist a single individual, designated by the group requesting the funds, who will be responsible for dispersing the funds. This person shall be responsible to see that the funds are dispersed in the proper manner as detailed in the request, and that the conditions listed below are carried out as stated.

All requests for funds to be used to pay a specific individual (i.e. performers, speakers, etc.) for their services must be submitted to the GSO Treasurer prior to the event in order to receive funding for that service. Upon the Senate's approval the GSO will pay these individuals directly after the reception of the proper paperwork (a W-9 and a Services Rendered form).

Student Clubs and Organizations Funding

Funding will be provided as follows:

a. Money from this category is available only to graduate student clubs and organizations recognized by the SBU Student Union and Activities Department. To be considered a graduate club 50% of the membership and the Executive council must be graduate students.

b. The Treasurer will review requests after receipt of a properly completed Funding Request Proposal. A Funding Request Proposal shall consist of:

1. A signed memo from the club's or organization's president to the GSO Treasurer expressing a brief description of the activity and purpose of the club, and a statement of its benefits to the graduate student community. Included in this memo must be the names of all the officers of the club organization, as well as a means of contacting these officers,
 2. An itemized budget for the current fiscal year,
 3. A current club roster,
 4. The club's constitution, with a meaningful equal opportunity clause.
- c. The maximum amount that can be allocated to any Club or Organization from this category shall not exceed a total amount stated in the current GSO budget.

F) General Cultural and Social Events

The GSO provides funding for events of interest to graduate students. In the interest of fairness these events must be open to all graduate students and widely publicized. This money is available to graduate student clubs and organizations, and graduate student event committees. Money from this category is available only to graduate student clubs and organizations recognized by the SBU Student Union and Activities Department and committees of greater than three graduate students formed for the purpose of planning and organizing an event. Each event must have a chairperson who is responsible for coordinating and running the event. The chairperson must be the person designated to be responsible for the event.

Graduate students cannot be charged to attend the event more than the members of the organizing club. The Treasurer reviews requests for funding provided under this category, after receipt of a completed funding request proposal.

G) Speaker Series/Conferences The GSO provides support for speakers and conferences of general interest to the entire graduate student community.

H) Student Publications The GSO provides support for graduate student literary or general interest publications.

I) Departmental Allocation

The GSO encourages departmental activities and programming. Each graduate department may use their allocation for whatever purposes their graduate students as a whole may decide, provided that benefits of these funds are available to all members of the department. Funding to each department will be provided up to a maximum rate of \$5.00 per full time student plus \$1.00 per part time student with a "CAP" of a \$1,000 per department. The Treasurer will process these requests.

J) RAP (Resource Access Project)

One of the most important and most accessible sources of funding from the GSO is provided through the Resource Access Project (RAP). The GSO RAP program is meant to provide small support to allow graduate students to attend conferences or workshops that will help them advance their careers.

K) The Graduate Student Lounge

The GSO and the FSA jointly operate the Graduate Student Lounge. The GSL shall be managed as outlined in the Lounge Advisory Committee Guidelines, and shall be overseen by the Lounge Committee and the C&D Agent (from FSA) for the GSO.

L) Graduate Bash The GSO will sponsor several graduate student events during the academic year. The purpose of these events will be to provide a regular event/occasion when students from different departments can come together and socialize.

M) Spring Fest The GSO sponsors an outdoor festival during May.

N) Cabaret Club The Cabaret is an economically independent unit and its expenses should never be greater than its income. Since it is a graduate student group, it will run its finances through the GSO Budget. The Treasurer of the Cabaret will meet with the GSO Treasurer at least once a semester to discuss the Cabaret Budget issues.

O) Other clubs Any club may run their finances through the GSO.

Interlibrary Loan System Threatened: Membership in Research Libraries Group (RLG) Proposed for Budget Cut

By Susan Crane, GSO Senator English Department

Tuesday, May 6th, a meeting was held to discuss with faculty the possibility termination of our library's membership in the Research Libraries Group (RLG). Barbara Brand, Head of Interlibrary Loan, Christian Filstrup, Dean and Director of Libraries, and Daniel Kinney, Assistant Director of Libraries for Collections and Technical Services were available to field questions. Among the attendees were six graduate students and about 30-35 faculty from various departments including History, Chemistry, Ecology and Evolution, and English.

According to the library administrators, RLG membership was proposed as a cut when the library became subject to a \$657,000 budget cut for the next financial year. Membership in the RLG costs \$40,000 annually. It was targeted by a process of elimination to reduce operating expenses. Trimming the library's hours and staff was deemed impossible because staffing is sparse already. Stemming the rate and breadth of acquisitions was also deemed impractical. Daniel Kinney gave a fairly bleak portrait of the library's financial state as whole, noting that the monograph collection budget, for instance, was cut from \$1,000,000 to roughly \$700,000 last year. Spending on monographs in History and English, for example, is currently down by about \$20,000 this year, to \$36,000 and \$38,000, respectively.

Compared to SUNY Albany, which adds or will add nearly 46,000 new volumes per year, Stony Brook will add about 32,000. Melville library's slower rate of monograph acquisition is due mainly to Stony Brook spending more than other universities on its subscriptions to serials in the sciences--approximately \$350,000 per year for chemistry journals alone. The costs of maintaining serials and databases, about \$3.2 million and \$500,000 per year, respectively, are increasing at a rate of about 9% each year.

At the meeting, however, Chris

Filstrup announced that the RLG cut will NOT be made this year. Even so, he assured attendees that while he was against the cuts wholeheartedly, his voice alone would not be enough to prevent the cuts if they are proposed again. Most assuredly they will be, he said, if the university or the state offers him another "flat budget." He urged ILL patrons to write letters alerting the Provost, Dean, and President of the specific ramifications that cutting membership in RLG will have on their work.

Some of those ramifications, according to Interlibrary Loan staff member Donna Sammis, who was hired to process ILL requests and has done so throughout her 30 years of employment at the library, are as follows. Should RLG membership be sacrificed, over ninety-nine percent of requests will be made through Online Computer Library Center, Inc. (OCLC). OCLC's consortium does not maintain a standard shipping method or loan period or have a uniform policy about what items may be borrowed or if they are renewable.

RLG's system, on the other hand, regulates loan parameters much more strictly. For example, if a borrower makes a request that is run through RLG, the material usually arrives within one week. However, should a request be made through an OCLC library which chooses to use fourth class mail, a request would take four weeks or longer to arrive. Many OCLC libraries also return requests for articles over thirty pages with the response "too long to copy."

The RLG consortium includes approximately 150 libraries renowned for their large, well-organized holdings of rare and unusual items both in the U.S. and abroad. Furthermore, membership in RLG allows faculty and students to acquire reader cards for other member libraries, which include nearby New York University, Columbia University, and Yale University.

The results of losing RLG membership would be devastating to the ILL borrowing operation, says Sammis. This membership is the very foundation of the reliable, predictable service that Stony Brook's ILL department has been known for since 1984.

As it is, Stony Brook's library system currently falls among the lowest ranked by the Association of Research Libraries (ARL): 107th out of 114 (www.arl.org/stats/).

GSO's Student Life Committee member Angeliki Field-Pollatou contacted Chris Filstrup and Barbara Brand regarding the RLG cut, and extended an invitation to that committee's meeting on Friday, May 2nd. Neither administrator was present at this meeting, though both were available for questions at the May 6th meeting initiated by Filstrup.

Notification for the May 6th meeting was sent out over email only to selected faculty and staff. Ed Feldman, Director of Behavioral Medicine in the Department of Family Medicine and Chair of the Student Life Committee, and Godlind Johnson, Head of the Science and Engineering Library and Member of the Student Life Committee, were among those not notified.

It is unfortunate that notification of graduate students about this meeting was also not forthcoming from library administration. Graduate students make 60% of the total number of Interlibrary Loan requests, and hence are the largest user group for RLG services (faculty are the second-largest group). The fact that a meeting did occur, however, shows some effort to disseminate information and encourage dialogue.

The RLG cut was discussed among the GSO Senate yesterday at the final meeting of the semester. GSO Executives and Senators from both Humanities and Sciences were in full support of composing a letter to express collective opposition to the cut. This letter is currently being drafted.

Interlibrary Loan's Reliable and Predictable Service Since 1984: No More? What will happen if we lose RLG membership:

Requests denied

Requests take more than four weeks to arrive

Requests not renewable

Reader cards revoked for member libraries such as NYU and Columbia

IN SHORT,

RESEARCH in many SCIENCE and HUMANITIES departments is CRIPPLED

Have a Wonderful Safe Summer!

To all our staff & contributors - Thank-you!!! Could not have had a paper without you.