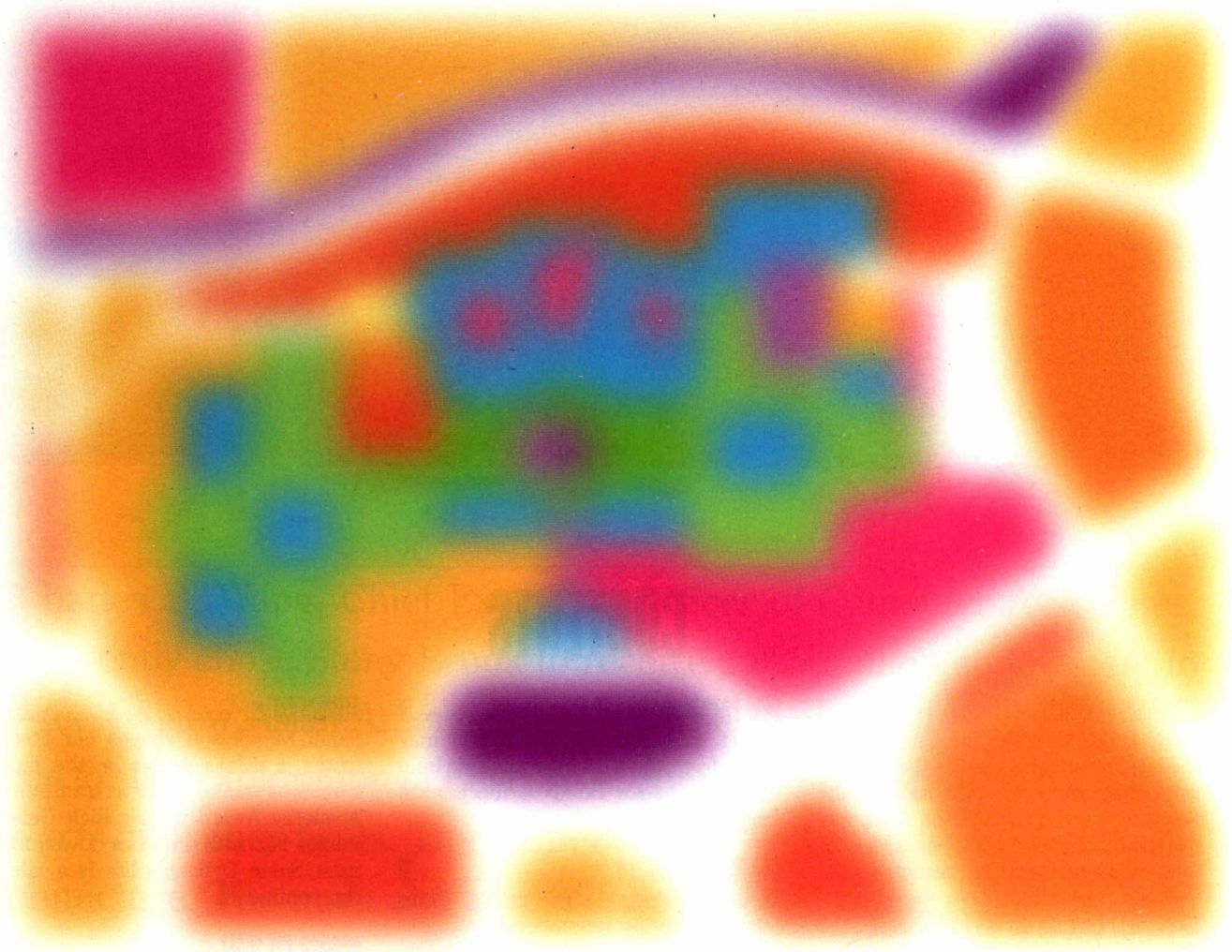


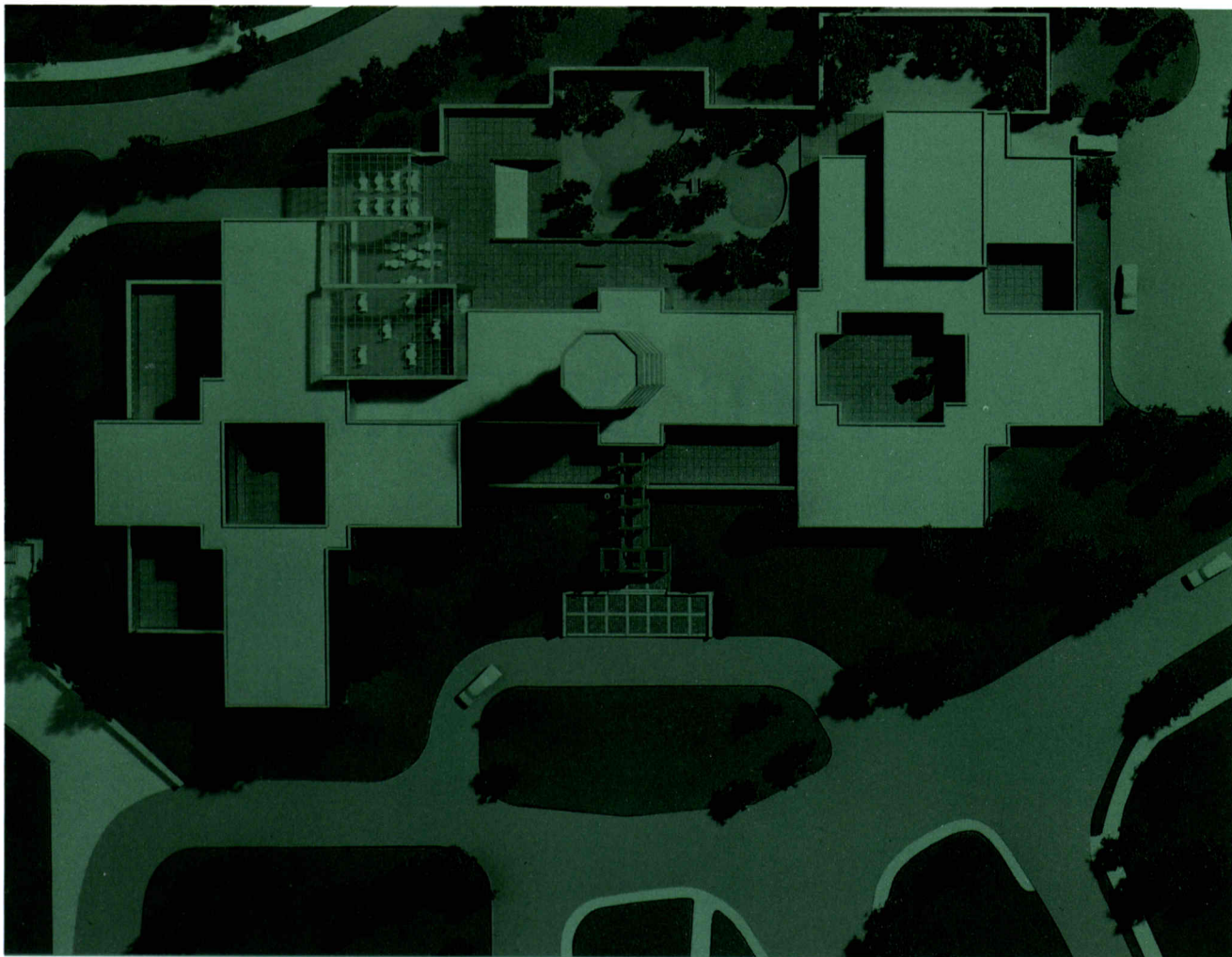
THE BROOK

THE DREAM



To see it come into focus, turn this page

THE VISION



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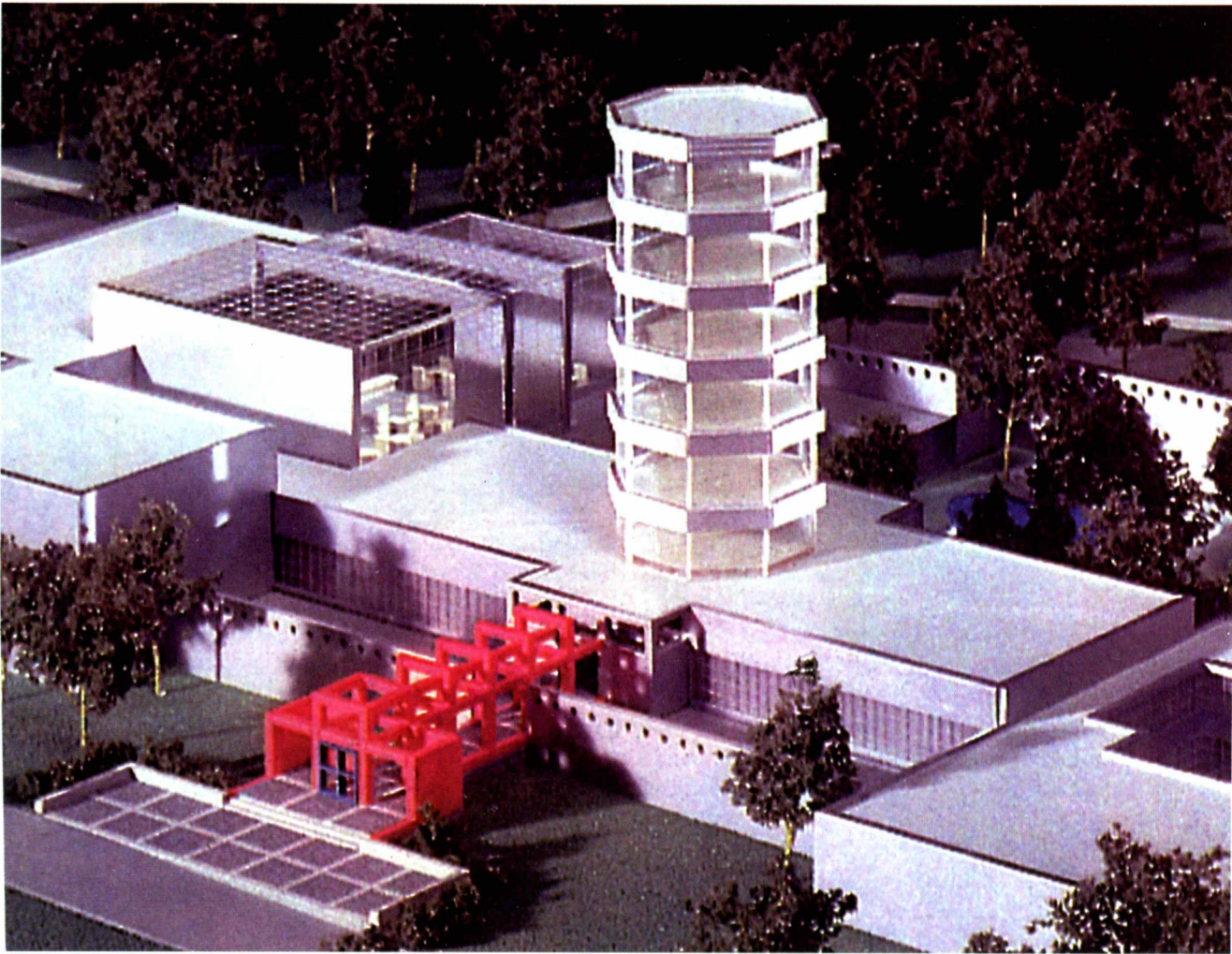
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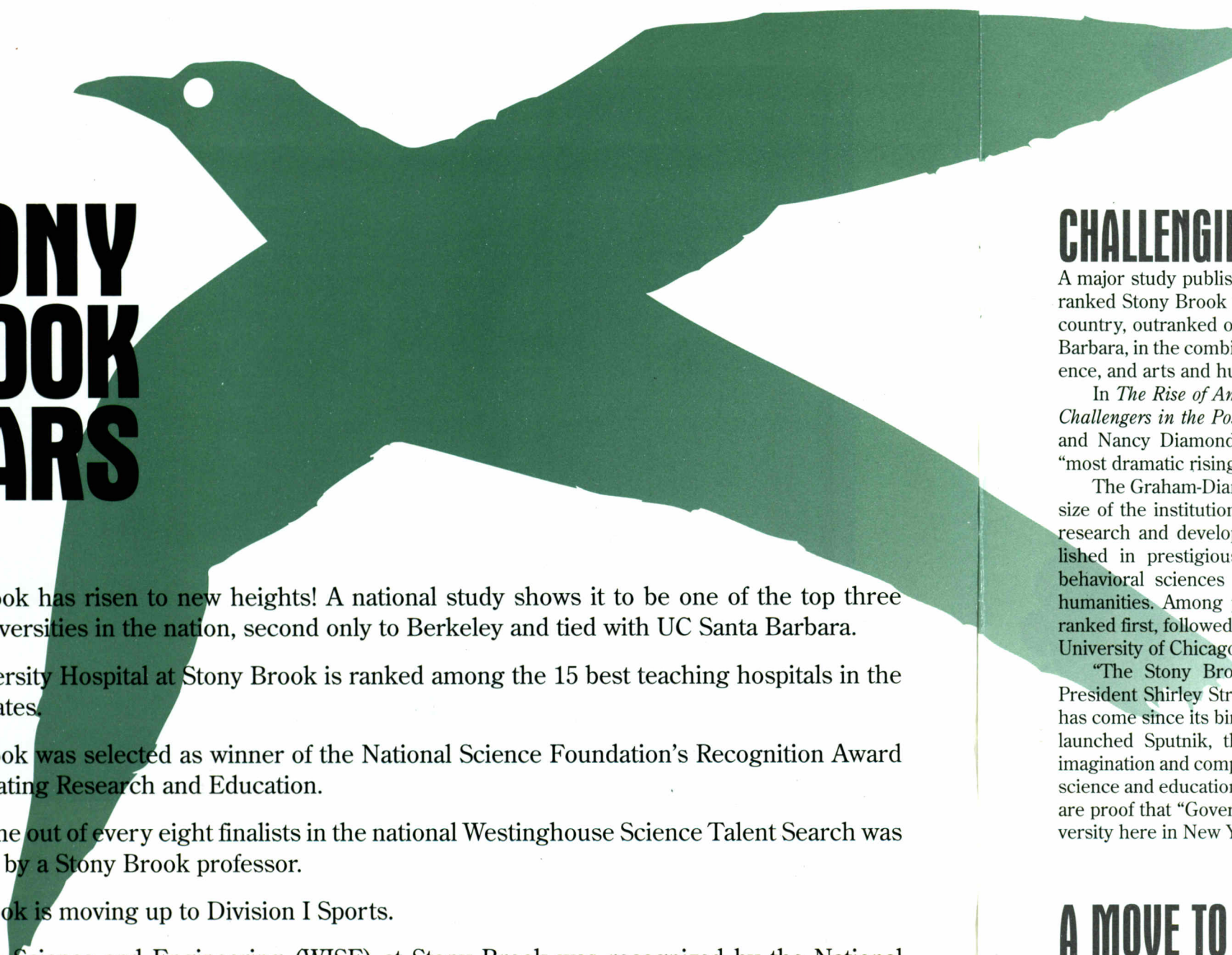
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THE FUTURE



Charles B. Wang, Chief Executive Officer of Computer Associates, recently chose Stony Brook to receive a \$25 million endowment to fund a new Asian American Center. The Center will be a gathering place for the exploration of East/West approaches to science, business, the arts and other fields. The Center's tower will echo traditional Asian architecture. The main entrance will be reached through a sculptural series of passages evocative of the many gates encountered during the progress into ancient Asian buildings. These gates are a brilliant red, a traditional color in Asian architecture, and will help lead visitors into the center. The story on page 18 describes the new Wang Center—and the man who inspired it.



STONY BROOK SOARS

- ★ Stony Brook has risen to new heights! A national study shows it to be one of the top three public universities in the nation, second only to Berkeley and tied with UC Santa Barbara.
- ★ The University Hospital at Stony Brook is ranked among the 15 best teaching hospitals in the United States.
- ★ Stony Brook was selected as winner of the National Science Foundation's Recognition Award for Integrating Research and Education.
- ★ In 1997, one out of every eight finalists in the national Westinghouse Science Talent Search was mentored by a Stony Brook professor.
- ★ Stony Brook is moving up to Division I Sports.
- ★ Women in Science and Engineering (WISE) at Stony Brook was recognized by the National Science Foundation as a model program for the country.
- ★ *Money* magazine and *U.S. News and World Report* call Stony Brook a "Best Buy."

CHALLENGING THE ELITES

A major study published by Johns Hopkins University Press ranked Stony Brook the number two public university in the country, outranked only by Berkeley and tied with UC Santa Barbara, in the combined research areas of science, social science, and arts and humanities.

In *The Rise of American Research Universities: Elites and Challengers in the Postwar Era*, authors Hugh Davis Graham and Nancy Diamond call Stony Brook one of the nation's "most dramatic rising stars" in research.

The Graham-Diamond study, which took into account the size of the institution, uses these criteria: federal grants for research and development; number of journal articles published in prestigious science, technology and social and behavioral sciences journals, and awards in the arts and humanities. Among private universities examined, Stanford ranked first, followed by Princeton and Harvard. Yale and the University of Chicago tied for third.

"The Stony Brook story is a remarkable one," says President Shirley Strum Kenny, noting how far Stony Brook has come since its birth in 1957—the same year the Russians launched Sputnik, the spacecraft that fired the American imagination and competitive spirit to make us world leaders in science and education. The results of the new study, she says, are proof that "Governor Rockefeller's dream for a great university here in New York has been realized."

A MOVE TO DIVISION I

Good news for Stony Brook Seawolves fans. Starting in 1999, women's and men's varsity teams will be eligible to compete in NCAA Division I play. President Kenny has notified the NCAA of Stony Brook's plans to reclassify the intercollegiate athletics program from its current Division II status to Division I. This means that many of the nineteen teams will join women's soccer and men's lacrosse, which already compete at the Division I level.

Division I affiliation will allow Stony Brook to compete athletically with comparable academic institutions both regionally and nationally: of the fifty-nine Type I public research universities in the country, fifty-five are Division I. And the excitement of first-class sports at a first-class university can make Stony Brook even more attractive to potential students than it has been in the past.

Stony Brook will use no state funds to support the athletic scholarships required by the NCAA for this move.

Join us when we compete against St. John's University—for the first time officially—as a Division I school in 1999.

NSF AWARD FOR INTEGRATING RESEARCH AND TEACHING

Stony Brook is one of ten research institutions in the nation to be recognized by the National Science Foundation for integrating teaching and research in science, math and engineering. The NSF created the awards to encourage universities to tie research efforts to teaching responsibilities. The honor carries with it a grant of \$500,000 each year for three years. Stony Brook was one of 137 "research-intensive" institutions invited to enter the competition. The other winners were: Carnegie Mellon University, Kansas State University, the University of Michigan, the University of Arizona, the University of California at Los Angeles, Duke University, the University of Delaware, the University of Missouri at Columbia, and the University of Oregon.

UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL IS ONE OF TOP FIFTEEN

University Hospital has been recognized as one of the top 15 teaching hospitals by a study that examined 3,575 general, short-term, acute care and non-federal hospitals nationwide, according to a study by William H. Mercer Consulting Firm. Michael Maffetone, hospital director and chief executive officer, says that the ranking was based not on "name recognition or popularity contest," but on Medicare data. "An institution must perform well in all three areas—clinical, operational and financial—in order to be awarded this distinction," he notes. "This recognition shows that we are doing the right thing in a very turbulent market."

The hospital also received a coveted "A" ranking from the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Health Care Organizations. And *New York* magazine, in its June 9 issue, called the hospital "the most experienced center" for the diagnosis and treatment of Lyme Disease. First Lady Hillary Clinton has also publicly praised the hospital for being first in the nation to adopt voluntarily an extended stay for maternity patients.

STONY BROOK FACULTY EXPLORE THE DEPTHS AND HEIGHTS *In the Subway ...*

Toby Buonagurio is keeping mum about the details, but she is one of four artists commissioned to create a work for the Times Square Subway Station. The Stony Brook art professor wants the piece to be “a really big surprise,” so she will say only that the art is “visually and spiritually locked into the energy of Times Square.”

Like the rest of Buonagurio’s work, this piece will be ceramic, and it is certain to be like her other work, “rich with fantasy—fantastic constructions, fantastic images—even as it has a certain tough-minded, hard-eyed clarity,” according to Donald Kuspit, another distinguished art professor at Stony Brook.

Buonagurio’s other ceramics, often dealing with images of women, bear such humorous or ironic titles as *Hungry for Love Party Shoes* and *Cheap Date with a Lepidopterist*. Her idealized icons of pop culture—Carmen Miranda and the Bionic Woman are among her inspirations—evoke chuckles and second thoughts. Time will tell what the energy of Times Square may provoke in this award-winning artist whose tongue is often lodged firmly in her cheek. ★



Above: Toby Buonagurio with husband, artist Edgar Buonagurio
Right: Buonagurio’s *Whispering to Butterflies (Spring Sprite)*, ceramic with glazes, lusters, acrylic paint and glitter



...and In the Sky

Stony Brook astronomers Kenneth Lanzetta and Amos Yahil have big plans; their goal is to do nothing less than chart the evolution of the universe over time. They have already made a good start by discovering a technique that helps them explain an image observed by the Hubble Space Telescope operated by the Space Telescope Science Institute in Baltimore. By focusing the telescope for ten days at a tiny spot in the sky (comparable in extent to the size of the period at the end of this sentence when held at arm’s length) scientists were able to identify some 2,500 galaxies.

When the Hubble image was made public by the Space Telescope Science Institute, Lanzetta and Yahil noticed that some galaxies appeared to have a color signature characteristic of extremely distant galaxies. The color explains their distance.

The Stony Brook astronomers were so intrigued that they began a quantitative analysis to determine the distances of the 2,500 galaxies identified in the image. They determined that this is the deepest view of the universe ever obtained. Because light travels at a finite speed, the distant galaxies recorded in the image are seen as they were in the distant past. Light from the most distant galaxies detected in the image was emitted nearly 15 billion years ago, when the universe was a mere five percent of its current age.

The astronomers found themselves for the first time looking back into the Big Bang—the beginning of the universe, which is some ten to twenty billion years old. In our own galaxy, the Milky Way, the farthest star is about 100,000 light years away. But here we can see stars—starlight—as far as fourteen and one-half billion light years away. These are the ‘earliest’ stars ever viewed; that is, they were born right after the Big Bang. At that early epoch, galaxies were in their first stages of development. For this reason, the Hubble Deep Field image can be interpreted as a sort of ‘time machine’ recording the history of galaxy formation and evolution over some ninety-five percent of the age of the universe.

Lanzetta, Yahil and team published their analysis in *Nature* (June 27, 1996) and have since created a video that simulates a journey back in time through the Hubble Deep Field image. Using the galaxy distances derived from their analysis, the astronomers cast the galaxies into their proper three-dimensional perspective. The simulation then proceeds through the galaxy distribution as time progresses from the present epoch toward increasingly earlier epochs. The image fades to black at the limit of our current knowledge of the distant universe.

“This is where the excitement is,” says Lanzetta. “We want to see back farther and farther; we want to keep going back in time.” ★

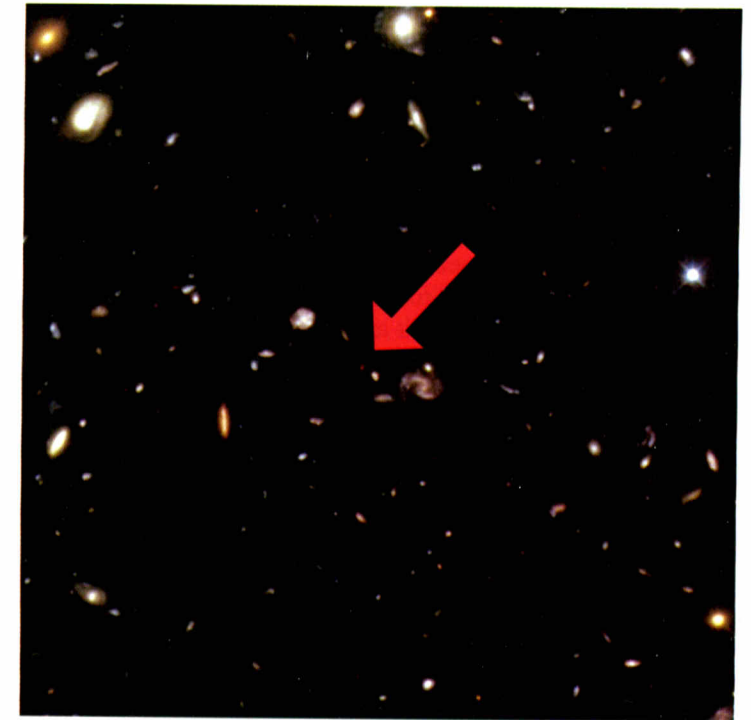


Image viewed from Hubble Telescope. Arrow points to a galaxy that Stony Brook astronomers believe is more distant than any object previously known.

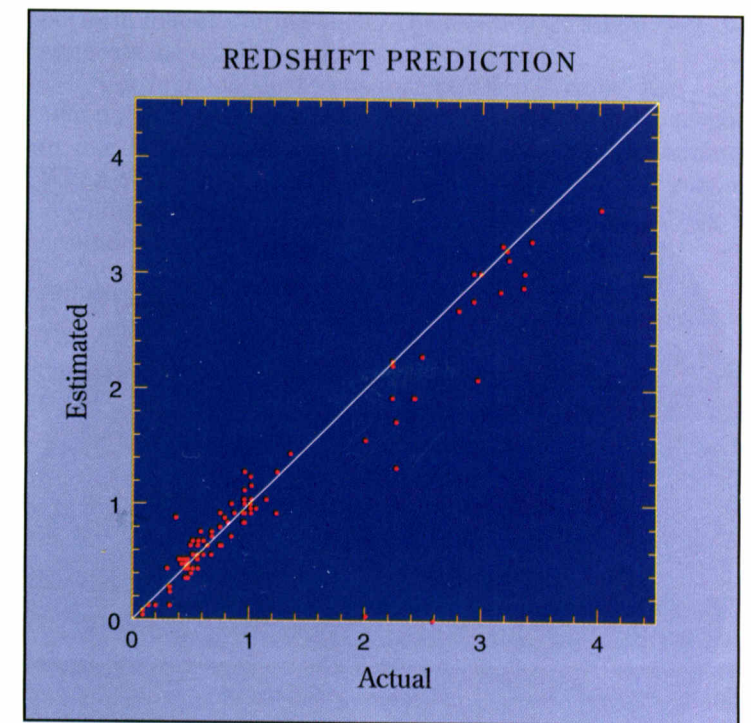


Chart shows how Stony Brook astronomers measure galaxy distances: they compare their predictions with the actual Hubble Telescope image.

OUT IN PUBLIC

Stony Brook Artists Make Public Statements

Art is everywhere—in the subway, on umbrellas, computer mouse pads—even shower curtains. Professor Ilan Averbuch's work is not quite so ubiquitous, but it does get noticed. His monumental sculptures—thirty feet high, and more—occupy public spaces from Queens to Calcutta.

Averbuch's artworks ("not figurative," he says, "but there is an image") are mostly of stone, wood and copper, which he salvages from recycling yards, and of discarded curbstones from construction sites. He is interested in "the look, the patina and broken edges." Invited last year to India by an art dealer, Averbuch spent several months touring foundries and making cast-iron pieces. "You know," he remarks, "most of the manhole covers in New York are made there."

Creating public art, Averbuch says, requires practical considerations. Art to be placed outdoors must be weather-resistant. There are safety issues: a sculpture Averbuch did for display in Portland, Oregon, needed an engineer's okay to certify that it complied with earthquake codes. And then there's vandalism. One of the artist's early pieces was firmly anchored to a concrete foundation in the middle of The Cloisters in New York City, a branch of the Metropolitan Museum of Art that is devoted to medieval art. But that did not deter someone from wrenching it off its base and carting it away under cover of darkness.



Student Cathleen Cavanagh's art in Staller Plaza puzzles and intrigues



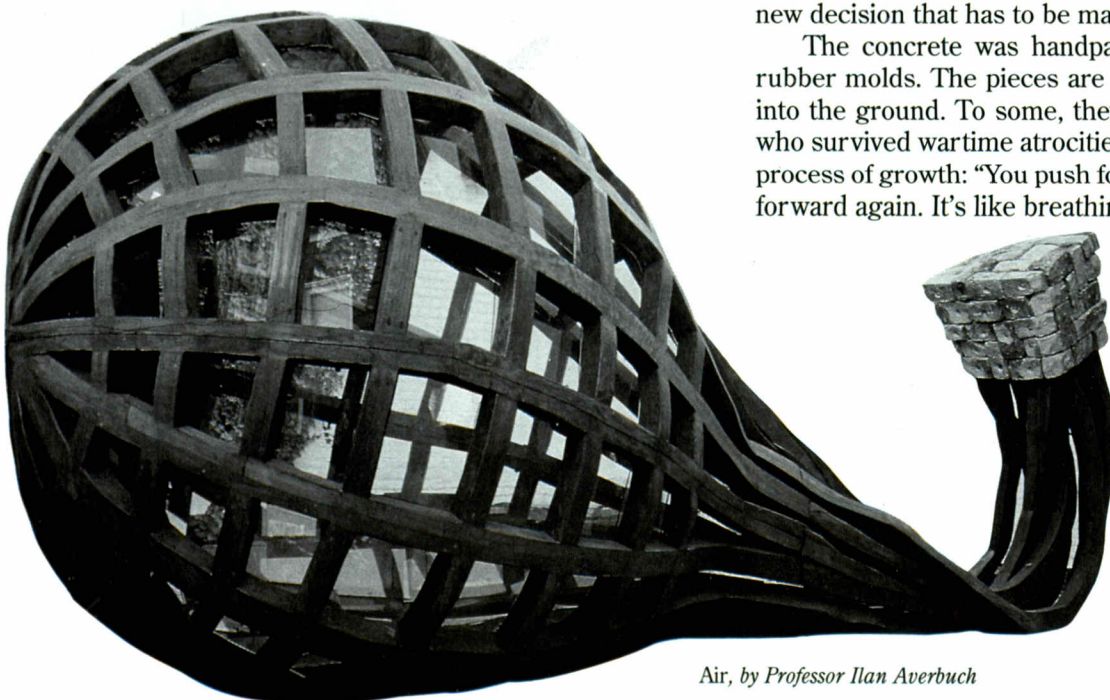
Artist amidst art

Some are uplifted by it; others offended. Some people draw closer. Others look away. Cathleen Cavanagh's *The Aftermath of One's Decision* provokes mixed reviews as the twenty-three figures in her work made of ordinary Home Depot concrete line up in a row on the Staller Center plaza. The figures' heads are variously bowed, averted, or erect, the faces featureless. Their hands hang at

their sides. Observers often stand near the piece looking thoughtful. What does it mean?

About the piece the artist says that it reflects something in her own personal life. "It's what happens when you begin at a place with your back against the wall. You go down a new path and run into another wall. With each new wall there's a new decision that has to be made."

The concrete was handpacked by Cavanagh into latex rubber molds. The pieces are anchored to pipes sunk a foot into the ground. To some, they seem suggestive of relatives who survived wartime atrocities. To Cavanagh they suggest a process of growth: "You push forward, you come back, you go forward again. It's like breathing."★



Air, by Professor Ilan Averbuch

NEW PRODUCTS FOR THE MILLENNIUM

Smart shoes, comfortable airplane seats, and agile robots. So what else is new in mechanical engineering?



Imin Kao streamlines manufacturing

Professor Imin Kao studies contact mechanics, the physics behind the pressure exerted when one surface touches another. His work has resulted in airplane seats that are being touted as “the world’s most comfortable.” Kao also is developing “smart” therapeutic shoes that could adjust automatically to suit each wearer’s individual comfort, and he is looking at ways to make the “fingertips” of industrial robots more dexterous. Though the projects sound

dissimilar, Kao points out that all three involve what happens when one surface makes contact with another—whether it’s a robotic hand, a human foot, or the part of us that sits.

The “smart” shoes would use an implanted computer chip to detect pressure between the wearer’s foot and the shoe. If the pressure is uneven—because of a pebble or some other object lodged inside—a built-in valve would automatically adjust the pressure. The tiny valve was developed by Kao, with engineers from BCAM Technologies, a subsidiary of BCAM International Inc. The shoe is still in the research and development stage, says Kao, and has yet to be tested.

The valve-assisted shoes have potential therapeutic and medical applications. Diabetes patients often experience neuropathy, a loss of sensation in their extremities. While a pebble in one’s shoe is a minor annoyance to anyone else, diabetics who can’t feel the object could end up with an ulcerated sore. Since a diabetic’s wounds can be slow or difficult to heal, that seemingly innocent pebble could pose a serious health risk—unless the patient wears a shoe that “feels” the foreign object for them.

EVALUATING AIRPLANE SEATS

Kao has turned his campus lab into a mock airplane—and his graduate students into flight attendants—to help United Airlines test their new business-class seats. The airline now bills the seats as “the most comfortable in the world.” For Kao the ongoing study is a chance to “evaluate comfort scientifically.”

United Airlines installed a row of the seats in Room 007 of the Light Engineering building. (It was an amusing coincidence for Kao, who confesses he’s seen “almost every James Bond movie. *Goldfinger* is one of my favorites.”) Stony Brook graduate students and BCAM engineers served as flight attendants, chatting up the test subjects and passing coffee, pillows and sandwiches from a local gourmet shop. The “passengers”—United Airlines frequent flyers—saw several movies (“one of those *Ace Ventura* things, and some other popular ones,” recalls

Kao), on individual panels attached to each seat. Every few hours Kao’s students handed out surveys, and inserted pressure-measuring devices into each seat, leading, says Kao, “to an objective assessment of whether the seats were comfortable.”

To simulate overnight flying, test sessions lasted from 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. Except for forays down the hall to the restroom, subjects remained in their seats the entire time (a task sweetened by the \$150 payment per subject, per session). The basement location made the environment more authentic: Kao points out that the low drone of the room’s ventilation system sounds like the noise inside a pressurized airplane cabin.

As with the medical shoes, Kao’s partner in the seat tests was BCAM International. The two projects were conducted through SPIR (Strategic Partnership for Industrial Resurgence), a state-supported program that enables Stony Brook to work closely with companies developing new products and technologies.

HELPING ROBOTS DO THEIR JOB

It’s not easy being an industrial robot. Their metallic fingers strain to perform assembly line tasks that we humans take for granted. To help robots manipulate objects easier and more efficiently, Kao does theoretical analyses of the contact between a robot’s fingertips and an object. To do that, he formulates equations and uses computer modeling to predict how the robot’s movements will occur. Kao’s work is still in the research stage, but he says the results could be used to enhance and control the dexterity of robots as they perform manufacturing tasks. The technology might even, he suggests, be used to improve artificial limbs.

“For humans, dexterous manipulation is easy,” Kao says. “We not only pick up a pen, we can let it slide and roll around in our fingers until it’s in the proper position for writing. When we’re finished, we know how to let it go. For robots, anything other than just grasping something and moving it around is hard.”

CUTTING EDGE

There’s good news coming for manufacturers of computer chips: silicon ingots, big chunks of crystalline stuff that are the raw material for chips, will soon be even bigger than they are now. The bad news is that, with the technology now being used in the United States, there’s no way to cut the ingots into wafers (the first step in the chip fabrication process). Currently, manufacturers use a device called the inner diameter saw. It’s adequate for cutting today’s six to eight inch ingots, but can’t cut the next generation of larger (up to twelve inches in diameter) ingots.

Kao is studying a different tool called the wiresaw, used primarily in Europe and Japan. It’s tough enough for the job, and can cut up to several hundred slices at a time while the inner diameter saw can cut only one. ★

— Susan Risoli



The Magic Formula

Stony Brook appears to have invented a magic formula for bringing together distinguished researchers and teachers with bright young people interested in math, medicine, engineering, and various aspects of the sciences. The enthusiasm for this formula is contagious: the National Science Foundation recently recognized Stony Brook as one of the ten most successful universities in the nation for integrating teaching and research. And Stony Brook's Project WISE (Women in Science and Engineering), sponsored by the National Science Foundation, has become a model for programs all over the country.

The following pages offer a peek into some of Stony Brook's programs, and into other miracles of modern science—including university scientists' influence on the national Westinghouse Science Talent Search.

No Nerds Here

*For girls who
love science,
there's
self-esteem
in numbers*

It's cold. It's bitter cold, and there's ice at the edge of Roth Pond. Six girls clap their mittened hands together and jiggle around to stay warm. But they're willing to sacrifice a little comfort for science.

These eleventh graders are enrolled in Project WISE (Women in Science and Engineering), a Stony Brook program for young women who show academic promise in science and math. It teaches them how to do research and conduct experiments. But more than that, Project WISE gives girls the confidence and encouragement they need to succeed in disciplines traditionally labeled "boys only."

Project WISE is supported by a \$1 million grant from the National Science Foundation; the project is directed by Wendy Katkin, associate provost for educational initiatives.

While many of its activities are designed for Stony Brook undergraduates, it also offers a high school component. Students are accepted in the tenth grade, and must commit to remain in the program until they graduate from high school. So far WISE has admitted ninety girls, who come one day each month after school to do hands-on research projects. They also spend two weeks living on campus during the summer, and take advantage of WISE trips and special events throughout the year.

Stony Brook graduate student Jo Bebie is leading today's Roth Pond expedition. He will supervise the girls as they take samples of water from the pond, a small stream near the student union, and a monitoring well outside the campus physical plant. Later on he'll bring them to the laboratory and show them how to do filtration and other tests that reveal whether the water they've collected is potable. (The name of their project is "Water: To Drink or Not to Drink.")

Other WISE teams are already in the lab. They are crushing rocks to create diamonds, or learning how to make synthetic blood. Young women tend to see science as "lonely, solitary work," says Katkin—so WISE emphasizes group participation.

"These people are all professionals at collecting water!" Jo tells a visitor, within earshot of his group. He's referring to the skills they picked up last summer, on a WISE-sponsored canoe trip down the Peconic River. Today the girls are wielding bailers, long, hollow tubes with rope tied to one end. Holding on to the rope, each girl flings her bailer into the pond, keeping it there until water rushes into the tube and fills it. They pull the bailers back in by the ropes, and retrieve their samples.

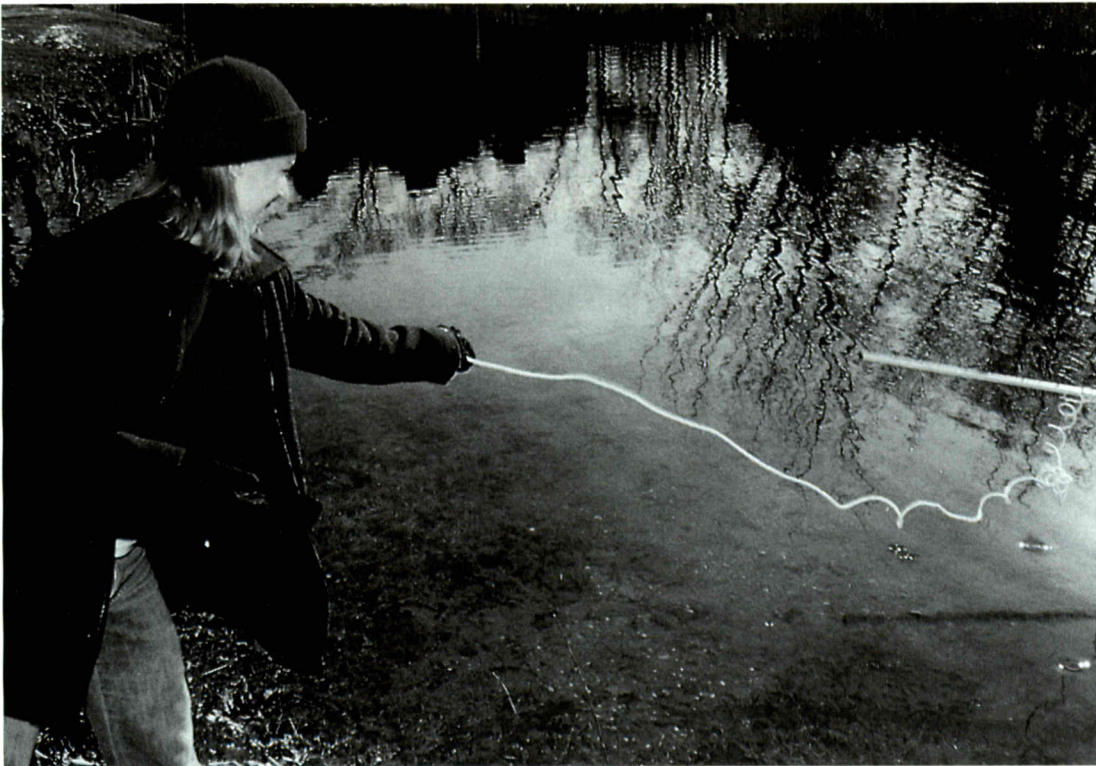
Peggy Welsh is the first one finished. "That's a pretty nice sample there," Jo says encouragingly, as she pours the icy cold water into a plastic collecting bottle. He moves over to watch Vanitha Krishna as she sticks a thermometer into the water. When all the girls are finished sampling, Jo leads them to the next spot.

I AM WOMAN, HEAR ME... WHISPER?

The camaraderie WISE provides is as important as the science. Lois Rowman, associate director of WISE, explains that communing

WISE woman Peggy Welsh samples a "stony brook."





Megan Sullivan deploys a "bailer," used to collect water to be analyzed, in Roth Pond.

with other female science whizzes can help girls overcome the negative messages they get from some teachers, parents, and even their peers. Rowman, a Stony Brook alumna with degrees in biology ('87) and technological systems management ('94), taught middle school science and ran New York City's science fair. She says teachers often respond more favorably to boys than to girls, even when boys give incorrect answers. "It sets up who raises their hand next," she says. "If you're told, 'No, you're wrong,' versus 'Thanks for your input,' when are you going to raise your hand again?" Classmates can be just as intimidating—if not more—to smart girls, who dread being branded a "math geek" or a "science nerd."

To sensitize educators to the way bright girls are sometimes treated, WISE invites high school teachers to participate in the program. This year, for the first time, some of those teachers are men. Math teacher Ira Friedman wasn't a fan of WISE, figuring it was "discriminatory." But when he saw how much more confident and assertive the girls became in a same-sex learning environment, he says, his thinking changed.

"Now I realize it's a terrible thing that we've done," Friedman says, "communicating sentiments like, 'you're a girl, you shouldn't be interested in that.'" Putting aside gender issues, the 33-year teaching veteran says he is energized—"no, make that turbocharged"—by seeing the kick high school students get from doing hands-on science in a university

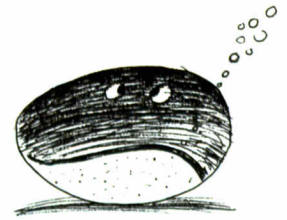
setting. "I can see the joy in their eyes when they're with other students who have the same desire for and excitement about science," he says. "They are so motivated, even after a long day at school."

Friedman says programs like WISE are an answered prayer for teachers who want to give their students more. "Many schools on Long Island only give lip service to gifted programs," he says. "These students could be very successful in science and math, and they're finally getting the attention they deserve."

TOTE THAT BOTTLE, LIFT THAT BAIL

Meanwhile, the water bearers have moved on to the well outside the physical plant. They're trying to put their bailers in the well, but it's dark down there, and the wind that's whipping their faces isn't making this any easier. Without any prodding from Jo Bebie, the girls start to work as a unit: one holds the plastic collecting bottle ready, some peer down the well and call out directions, and the rest maneuver a bailer. Finally, they get their samples. Bebie hovers nearby, but he lets them do it themselves.

Later on tonight, when they're cozy at home, the girls might browse the World Wide Web (they learned how at Stony Brook), or log on to the e-mail accounts the university has set up for them. But right now, these WISE women are doing what everyone—regardless of age or gender—would be wise to undertake. They are learning and doing what calls to them, and loving it.★



"HELP! MY BARNACLES ARE DYING!"

It looks like a standard-issue campus phone...but Stony Brook's research hotline is anything but ordinary to exceptionally bright young people who call 516-632-7096. The number is their connection to expertise and equipment high schools don't offer.

Edna Zemanian at the Center for Science, Mathematics and Technology Education fields the calls, several of them each day. Some callers are just looking for a reality check before diving into an ambitious research project; others need ongoing assistance. Zemanian helps the students sharpen their focus, sometimes suggesting they do preliminary library work (she arranges campus library privileges) before going further. When they're ready, Zemanian matches students with faculty.

Here's a sampling of typical hotline calls:

From a teacher: *I have a student who likes "Star Trek." Can he use your telescope?*

Yes, if he's taken calculus.

How can I produce an engineering device to prevent someone's car from rolling over if they fall asleep at the wheel?

"The student wants to make something that would sense when the car's wheels leave the road," Zemanian says. "At this point, they just want to know if it's feasible."

I'd like to work in an AIDS lab.

Tricky, says Zemanian, and one of the rare requests she has to turn down. AIDS labs contain sensitive data and delicate, expensive equipment.

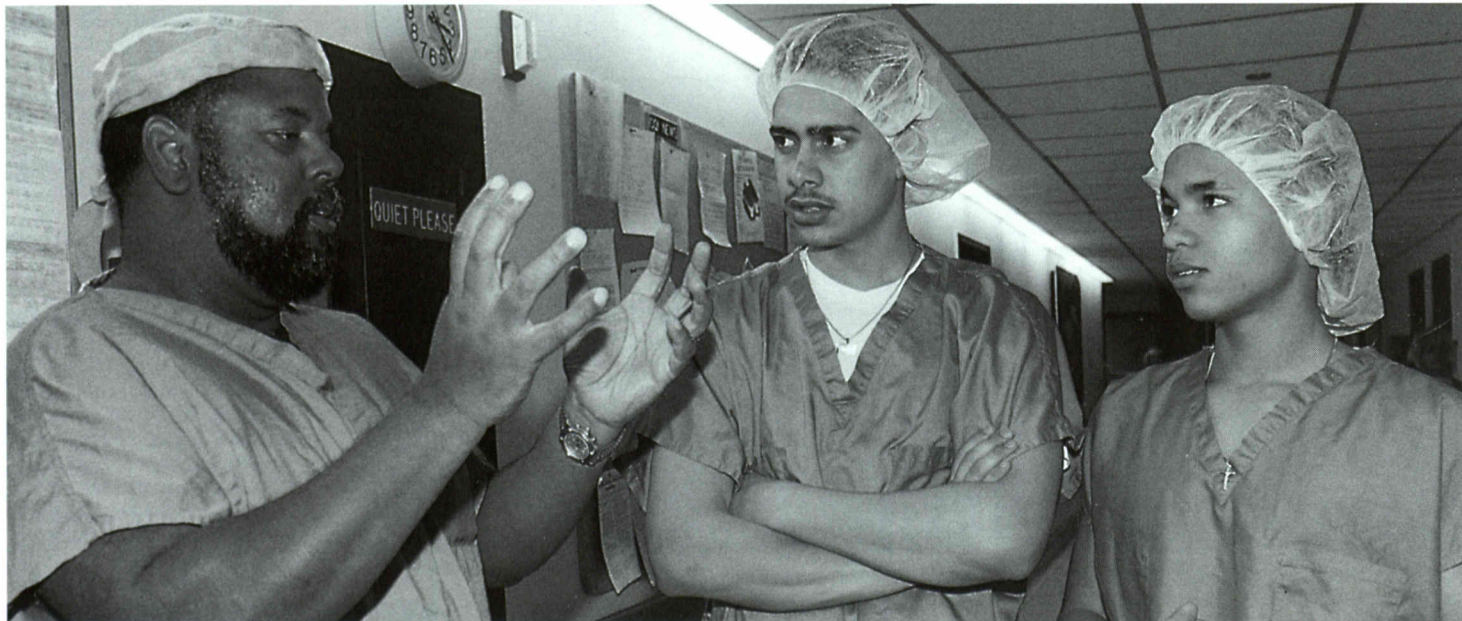
Students who ask to work in labs containing potentially dangerous chemicals also are encouraged to find another area of interest.

"Help! My barnacles are all dying!"

Referred to a researcher who helped set up a barnacle-friendly environment. Says Zemanian, "The student was also told, this is research. You have to start over, something that happens all the time."

ER it's Not...This is Real Life

High school students are doctors for a day



Before entering the operating room, teens Manny Ortiz (center) and Daby Carreras (right) are briefed by Dr. William Backus.

A well-scrubbed team files into a sterile-looking room in University Hospital. Though they seem intense enough to be surgeons, these are eleventh grade students.

Tawana Wilkinson is off to the emergency room. "Maybe it'll be like *ER*," one of her team suggests. Instead of a television star, Tawana meets Dr. Jonathan Burstein, assistant professor of emergency medicine. Today Dr. Burstein is the attending physician in the shock trauma area. People come here if they have chest pain or dangerously high blood pressure.

"Got an arrest coming in five minutes," a voice says, with the slightest hint of urgency. Burstein knows, as Tawana soon will, that a heart has stopped beating.

The pace in the room quickens. Burstein positions Tawana behind the nurses' station where she will be out of the way, but still able to watch the action.

"What you're going to see, just so you're prepared," he says calmly, "the patient is dead." He adds not unkindly, "He's probably going to stay dead. That's the truth. Only on TV is everyone saved."

Tawana blinks. "Ambulance pulling into the bay!" A middle-aged man is brought in on a gurney. The trauma team gathers around and just like on TV someone yells, "Clear!" A doctor applies resuscitation paddles to the man's bare chest. His body jumps. He's alive. After a few minutes the man's condition stabilizes, and the crowd around his bed thins.

Tawana exhales. Burstein walks over and picks up the threads of his earlier conversation. "Anyway, let me explain what you just saw. The man experienced ventricular fibrillation. He's moving around, but not too much, so he probably did experience some brain damage."

Tawana has witnessed what Burstein calls "a rare event": the survival rate in New York State for out-of-hospital cardiac

arrest, he says, is only three percent.

Manny Ortiz and Daby Carreras, clad in scrub suits, follow Dr. William Backus to a suite of operating rooms. Here it is windowless. Dr. Backus, associate professor of clinical anesthesiology, takes them to a room where a six-month-old infant is undergoing brain surgery. Backus shows the students how the anesthesia machine works, then invites them to take a closer look at the surgery.

Manny and Daby peer at the surgeons' hands, then at the monitor showing extreme closeups of the baby's brain. Their eyes are glued to the screen. "This is great," says Daby, awestruck. "Interesting," Manny murmurs, looking like he can't quite believe what he's seeing.

Back in the conference room, the students are joined by Dr. Paul Poppers, chairman of the Department of Anesthesiology, who also directs the hospital's high school outreach program. He insists on a dress code for the aspiring doctors: white lab coats, ties for the boys.

"What did you guys experience today?" he asks the group. Tawana's professional demeanor melts, and she is a teenager again. "They brought a guy back to life!" she says, her voice rising. Poppers' tone is relaxed, but he asks questions as if this were grand rounds: "And the patient's condition now?" Tawana reports that the patient probably has brain damage, though she is not sure why, and Dr. Poppers explains the relationship between the heart and oxygen transport. "If the heart doesn't pump," he says, "the brain suffers."

Dr. Poppers tells the students what causes cardiac arrest—heart attack, blood loss, sudden arrhythmia. But he has to cut short his description of resuscitation methods.

It's time for the future docs to catch the bus back to school.★

The Road to Fame is Paved with Hard Work

And sometimes incineration byproduct

The parking lot of Long Island's Ward Melville High School looks like any other. Teachers and students rush across its blacktopped surface; buses rumble by. But a 70-by-200-foot section on the north side is special to three former students. That section is paved over with a mixture of standard asphalt and the ash produced when garbage is burned in a commercial incinerator. What high schooler Jonathan Plau learned during the creation of this patch of parking lot took him all the way to the Westinghouse Science Talent Search finals. For Stony Brook professor Frank Roethel, the project was a chance to teach young people how to run lab tests and conduct a scientific study; how to cut through the bureaucratic tangle of regulatory agencies; how to wangle donations of materials and services; even how to gain some poise and polish.

Roethel's collaboration with Jonathan, Damien Yambo and John Xu started when the trio heard Roethel address a civic group about his ash studies at the Waste Reduction and Management Institute, a division of Stony Brook's Marine Sciences Research Center. For years Roethel and other scientists had blended ash—chemically stabilized to neutralize any components that might harm the environment—with concrete and other materials. Their intent: to find practical and safe ways to recycle waste, a task that became even more urgent after New York State ordered Long Island to close its landfills by 1990. Stony Brook scientists had used recycled ash

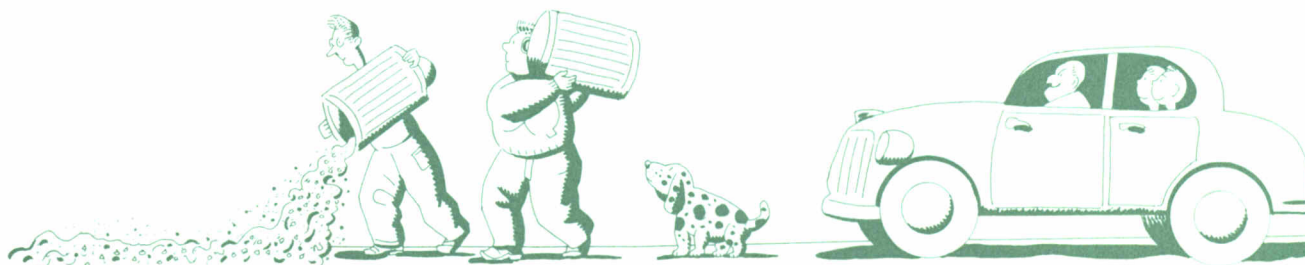
the agency now uses the project's application as a model for others who file RD and D requests.

Back at the lab, the students tested an ash-aggregate (sand and gravel)-asphalt mix they dubbed "ashphalt." They put samples of it in acid for three months to see if acid rain beating down on a lot paved with ashphalt would cause metals to leach out. After analyses showed no environmental hazards, it was time to pave.

With Roethel's help, the trio convinced local merchants and municipalities to donate all the labor, equipment, and materials. When the paving took place last spring, "the boys" were exhilarated. The three entered their research in the annual Westinghouse Science Talent Search (Jonathan was designated representative), and the project earned Jonathan a slot as one of 40 national finalists.

Roethel took his proteges to Washington, D.C., where they gave a presentation to the International Conference on Ash Utilization and Management. "I think we impressed our colleagues in the ash community," Jonathan says modestly. "We got a standing ovation." Jonathan credits Roethel's encouragement for the success of the project. Roethel returns the compliment. "These boys are sharp," he says. "I've had graduate students who aren't as competent."

Under Roethel's direction, the team continues to monitor the parking lot. Half of its 14,350-square-foot surface was



to create a manmade fishing reef off the Island's coastline and to construct a boathouse for Marine Sciences' research vessels. After years of monitoring, the structures remained physically sound and demonstrated no environmentally adverse effects.

As Roethel described his work, the three friends huddled. They had wanted to do a recycling project. Wouldn't it be cool to pave their school's parking lot with a mixture of ash and asphalt? Roethel was intrigued. He invited them to his lab, where he and technician Maryann Wentz taught "the boys"—as Roethel calls them—how to run tests on processed ash, a nondescript powder that looks like gray sand. Then Roethel helped them plug their results into the application for an "RD and D" (research, demonstration and development) permit. The permit, granted by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, would give the go-ahead for the actual paving. Roethel went up to Albany to run interference with DEC officials. They gave their blessings and then some;

paved over in the project. Several times a month the boys test rainwater runoff from the ashphalt and control sections and sample nearby soil for metals. "To date," Roethel reports, "we see no difference with the data collected from the control pavement and that of the ashphalt with regard to runoff and soil chemistry. From the data reviewed, we see no environmental impact."

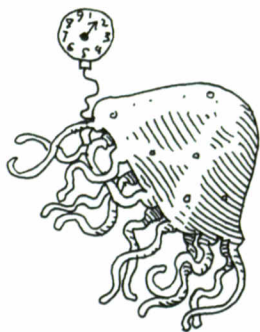
The parking lot is a test case for anyone seeking a safe, practical use for stabilized incinerator ash, says Roethel. The state DEC takes the project seriously. Roethel notes that "the data being collected are drastically adding to the data base in New York State regarding the use of ash in highway applications."

And "the boys"? Soon off to other interests, they will hand-pick a new team of schoolmates to continue the assessment. Will they miss their parking lot? Damien laughs. "I'll miss the project," he says. "It was a lot of fun."

No pun intended. ★

An Intellectual Playground

For Westinghouse Science Talent Contenders



"HOW DO I MEASURE METABOLIC RATES OF JELLYFISH?"

Westinghouse Talent Search entrant Whitney Bowe made this request of Jean Morrissey, Stony Brook graduate student. Morrissey showed Whitney how to use a microelectrode oxygen probe, an instrument that measures rates of oxygen consumption. For several weekends, Whitney showed up at Stony Brook's Flax Pond lab laden with live jellyfish sloshing around in buckets. For her troubles—and her intense interest—Whitney earned the title of Westinghouse Finalist, ranking number 10 in the country and winning a \$10,000 scholarship.



High school students Mike Baur and Ellan Spero use a hand-held pen computer to test the salinity of water sampled near the campus. The equipment was donated by Symbol Technologies to help Stony Brook's Marine Sciences Research Center teach young people how to gather long-term environmental data.

This past year fifty-seven high school students from Long Island—almost twenty percent of the nation's winners—made it to the semifinals of the National Westinghouse Science Talent Search. Of those, eleven Long Island kids—almost a quarter of the forty selected nationwide—went all the way to the finals.

Stony Brook scientists worked with five of the eleven Long Island students who became finalists and with sixteen semifinalists. But aspiring scientists do not have to be a part of a contest to get help at Stony Brook. Professional scientific advice is available to

any student who asks for it, or to any school.

"High school teachers are desperate sometimes," says Edna Zemanian, staff assistant at the Center for Science, Mathematics and Technology Education on campus. "Some are told to start a research program, and they're not trained to do that. Some schools are well-supported, but others have no money; they're doing research out of their back pockets." Melanie Krieger is director of the Ward Melville High School's much-lauded Westinghouse Preparatory program. "WestPrep" is known for producing science stars, and Krieger has grown used to the media attention her program draws. But at one time, she was one of the "desperate" ones—a math teacher who had been charged with starting a science research program from scratch.

Krieger reached out to Stony Brook for help. At first, only one or two students had university mentors. "Then every kid wanted one," she recalls. Krieger now works closely

with the Center and its co-directors, Albert Carlson and Lester Paldy, on its programs for Long Island high schools, and she co-directs its summer high school research institute.

"Stony Brook is an intellectual playground for these kids," she says. "You couldn't have better experts in the whole world." Krieger calls Stony Brook faculty "unsung heroes" for giving up chunks of their time to help with high school kids' projects. "The rise in the level of high school science on Long Island is due to these university mentors," she says.★

From Outer Space to Polling Place

A Scientist Comes Full Circle

Political intrigue! Foreign affairs! Concealed identity! A Westinghouse project took on all the elements of a thriller when Stony Brook professor Rich Timpone hooked up with high school senior Jungmin Lee. After Timpone agreed to help the student with his research on Korean-American voting behavior, Jungmin brought along teacher Allen Sachs to the first session. Only when the three met face-to-face did they realize that Sachs was the same person who had guided Professor Timpone to the finals of a national science contest as a teenager sixteen years before.

In 1981, Timpone entered a NASA-sponsored high school competition with an experiment that explored whether zero gravity would affect the offspring of fruit flies that mated in space. Winning the grand prize would mean his experiment would be performed aboard the space shuttle Columbia. *Newsday* ran a story, "Student Flies Could Fly High," with a photo of Timpone and his biology teacher, Allen Sachs, gazing raptly at a microscope slide.

Timpone was only a regional winner, and his fruit flies stayed Earth-bound. And eventually political science exerted a greater gravitational pull on him than fruit flies. Sachs went on to direct the student research program at another school, but he never forgot Rich Timpone, the first of his students ever to win a science contest.

Jungmin's curiosity brought the two together again. Born in Korea, Jungmin wanted to test a hypothesis he had formed about American government: that the more local an election, the more engaged Korean-Americans would become. This is contrary to the usual pattern of political involvement, in which most people are more concerned with elections on a national level. Jungmin did not know how to get started, so he called Stony Brook's research hotline. Eventually he spoke with Timpone and arranged a meeting.

When the three came together, recalls Sachs, "Rich looked at me. I looked at him. And sure enough, what goes around comes around!"

For Sachs and Timpone, the reunion was a chance to reminisce. Jungmin saw it as a good omen. He and Timpone got to work designing a public opinion survey that was mailed to 1,000 Korean-Americans. As the



Top photo: Today, Stony Brook professor Timpone (right) is mentor to aspiring researcher Jungmin Lee (left), student of Allen Sachs.

Right: Back in 1981, Rich Timpone (holding slide) was a novice scientist coached and inspired by Sachs.

surveys came back, Timpone helped him analyze and interpret the data. "I didn't know anything about statistical methodology," Jungmin says. "He introduced me to all that." Jungmin contributed an insider's knowledge of Asian American culture. Together they shared the thrill of seeing completed surveys in each day's mail. When the results were in, the data proved Jungmin's theory about Korean-American political habits.

And, like Timpone had so many years before, Jungmin made *Newsday* when he was named a Westinghouse semifinalist.★

FROM SHANGHAI TO STONY BROOK

Charles B. Wang, the man behind the dream

Charles B. Wang is many things; visionary, CEO of Computer Associates International, a sure-footed athlete on the basketball court. He's also a product of public education. So he chose Stony Brook to receive a \$25-million endowment that will fund a new Asian American Center on campus.

The donation was announced in December at a formal ceremony hosted by NBC anchor Tom Brokaw and attended by Governor George Pataki and U.S. Senator Alfonse D'Amato. It is the largest gift in SUNY's history and one of the largest ever given to any public university. Though the news created a frisson of excitement on campus, it came as no surprise to President Shirley Strum Kenny.

"Stony Brook may be young, but we're aggressive and charged with intellectual energy," she said. "And like Charles Wang, we care deeply about young people. This is the right place to build this center."

The Charles B. Wang Asian American Center will be a gathering place for non-Asians and Asian Americans to explore East/West approaches to science, business, the arts, and many other fields. The building will house an auditorium/conference center, art gallery, meeting rooms and multicuisine food court. The Center will also speed up Stony Brook's emergence as a global, "virtual university." Fiber optic technology, Internet access and video conferencing will transmit real-time video, voice and data at speeds in excess of 45 megabits per second.

"I want the Center to be a model of how information technology can be applied in the service of education," said Wang. "These technologies will allow professors and students at Stony Brook and in Asia to freely exchange ideas in real-time, regardless of their physical locations."

Nineteen percent of the University's current students and 29 percent of this year's freshmen are of Asian descent. Prominent Asian alumni include Reijane Huai, head of the Cheyenne division of Computer Associates, and Myung Oh, a newspaper publisher in Seoul. Wang himself was eight years old when his family left Shanghai, China.

The new center will occupy a four-acre site near the Staller Center. It was designed by noted architect P. H. Tuan. Wang's gift provides not only for construction, but also for ongoing building maintenance and upkeep.

Creation of the Wang Asian American Center signals not only a coming-of-age for Stony Brook, Kenny said, but underscores the importance of supporting public education. "This gift is a message, about the seminal importance of public higher education as the best possible education for students who

cannot necessarily afford the most expensive," she remarked. "And we can see no better proof of the efficacy of that system than Charles B. Wang."

REMEMBERING THE IMMIGRANT EXPERIENCE

In 1952, when Charles B. Wang was eight years old, he and his family left Shanghai, China to settle in New York City. Today Wang is the founder and chairman of Computer Associates International, the world's second largest software company and an employer of 9,000 people in 40 countries.

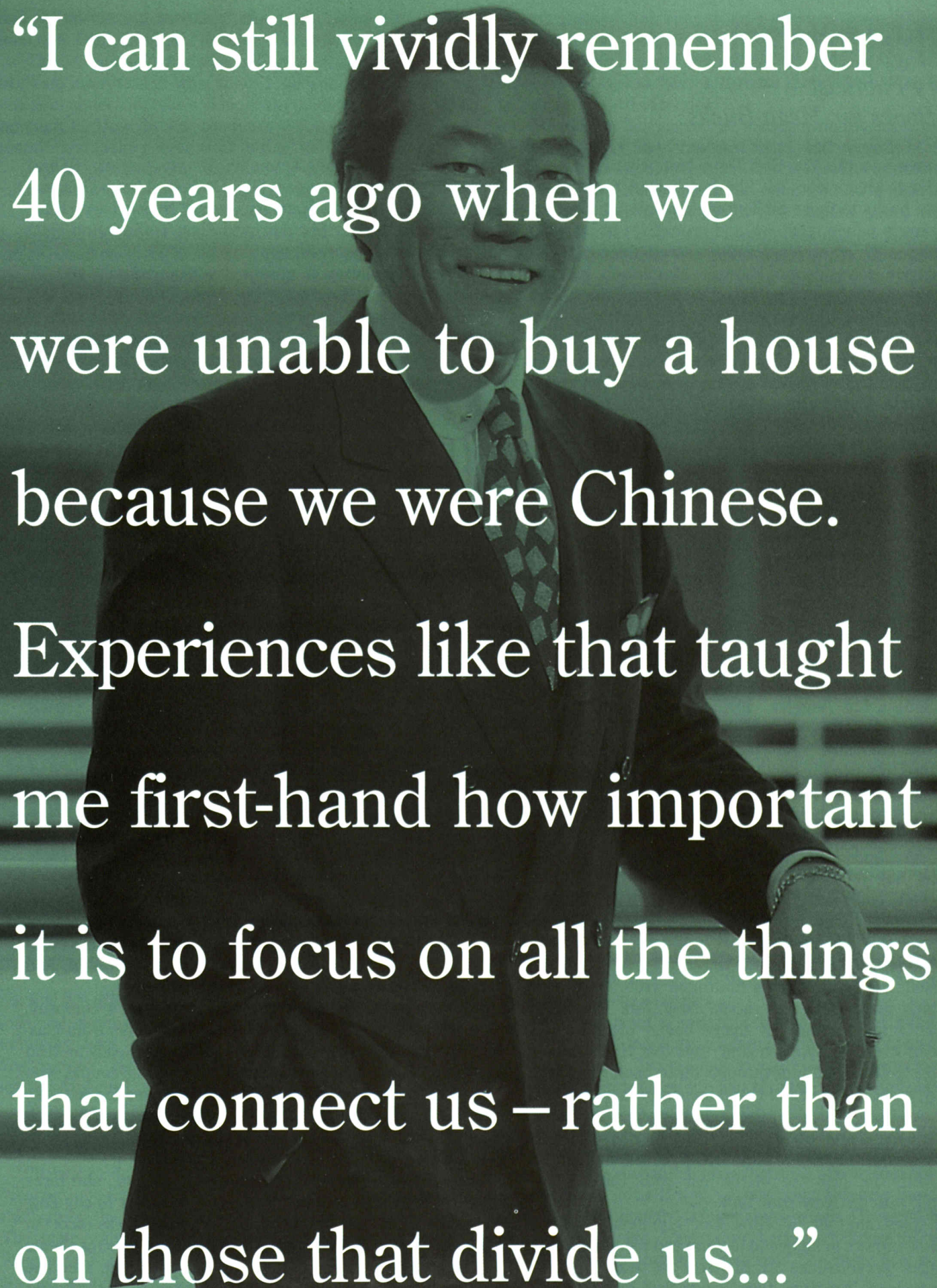
At the December ceremony that heralded Wang's \$25 million gift for the building that will bear his name, he spoke of his heritage and the immigrant experience: "I hope the Asian American Cultural Center will showcase and help preserve the very rich, very proud Asian cultures. I hope the Center will encourage an appreciation of personal heritage to the same degree that I value my own. As a young immigrant from China, I never in my wildest dreams thought I would be in a position to stand before such a distinguished assembly, in support of a significant project.

"I can still vividly remember 40 years ago when we were unable to buy a house because we were Chinese. Experiences like that taught me first-hand how important it is to focus on all the things that connect us—rather than on those that divide us. I also remember in high school in Brooklyn, when it was a big deal to get 32 cents from my mother for school lunch. The situation is different for my children, and I am glad for that. They have not, thus far at least, missed any lunches. Yet as a successful entrepreneur, there are some things I am powerless to give my children.

"You see, the one gift that I would most like my children to have is beyond my capacity to endow. I want my children to have a full measure of the immigrant experience. No experience has been more demanding, more educational, and, ultimately, more rewarding.

"So while that direct experience is denied them, my children—and your children—will be able to participate in the experiences of their parents on both sides of the Pacific, through institutions like the Asian American Cultural Center at Stony Brook.

"As a Chinese-American, I cherish the land of my birth. And I cherish the country that gave me a home. I am indeed doubly blessed. As you know, it's a long way from Shanghai to Stony Brook. But thanks to technology, the world is shrinking every day, and that's a very good thing for us. Because as we all get to know one another, as we get to interact with different cultures and different countries, the walls that divide us begin to crumble."★

A man in a dark suit and patterned tie is smiling and looking towards the camera. He is standing in front of a blurred background that appears to be a building or a large structure. The text is overlaid on the image in a white, serif font.

“I can still vividly remember
40 years ago when we
were unable to buy a house
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Experiences like that taught
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it is to focus on all the things
that connect us – rather than
on those that divide us...”

SANDI MENDELSON

Literary Publicist

Mega-Books for Mega-Bucks

How do you get on the *New York Times* best-seller list?

Ask Sandi Mendelson '74. She has helped boost more than eighty books to those bibliographic heights during her twenty years in public relations, and specializes in bringing high profiles and high profits to authors across the country.

Mendelson is president of Hilsinger-Mendelson, Inc., the nation's preeminent literary public relations firm, with offices on both coasts. A tall brunette with a soft voice and lively eyes, Mendelson worked summers with Bantam Books while a student in sociology at Stony Brook. She went on to become administrative assistant for Oscar Dystel, then head of Bantam.

After college, Mendelson was on track to become a publisher, but the Queens native wanted to leave New York for awhile. So she moved to San Francisco, where she "hooked up" with Judy Hilsinger, another bright young woman who loved books and had a background in public relations. From its 1977 inception in San Francisco, HMI expanded to include a Los Angeles office in 1980, which Hilsinger, CEO of the company, oversees. In 1983, the two opened New York offices, where Sandi Mendelson sits behind a Rolodex as big as a donut car tire, surrounded by the books she has pushed and pummeled into eminence.

"For mega-publicity, they are the best in the business—no one comes close," says

John Naisbitt, who with Patricia Aburdene wrote *Megatrends 2000*, which made it to the sacred *New York Times* list. Dominick Dunne, author of many books including his reportage of the O. J. Simpson trial, says that Hilsinger and Mendelson have guided him through three book tours with "efficiency, grace, and wit, and I can't imagine doing it without them. I have been spared all the nightmare tales my fellow authors tell me about their tours." And Rita Mae Brown, author of *Rubyfruit Jungle* and other books, considers her relationship with the firm "to be on par with Babe Ruth's relationship with the New York Yankees."

How does she do it? How has Mendelson helped hundreds of authors to fame and fortune and handled artistic and political personalities as different as Isaac Asimov, Margaret Atwood, Jean Auel, Tom Clancy, Patti Reagan Davis,

Kitty Kelley, Caroline Kennedy, Jimmy Carter, Robert Fulghum, Barry Goldwater, Sue Grafton, Lewis Grizzard, Arthur Hailey, Armand Hammer, Joseph Heller, Larry King, Judith Krantz, Sidney Sheldon, and Alvin Toffler? And *that's* just for starters.

"Sandi Mendelson is obsessed with convincing the TV generation to buy books," wrote Janet Bode in *New York Woman* ten years ago, when HMI had shepherded a mere 20 titles to the best-seller list. With ferocious energy and savvy intelligence, Mendelson analyzes author and message, then mobilizes her team of five in New York, and coordinates with Hilsinger's two in Los Angeles, and three part-time floaters to manage her clients' ascents.

Mendelson often is asked to take on corporate and individual clients and projects. She was responsible for a front-page *Times* business article that translated into an increase in popularity and market share for Berenstain Bears items; she created the national launch of the *Crayola Kids Magazine*, and generated worldwide coverage for the opening of the American Poets' Corner in the Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine, presided over by Walter Cronkite and Gregory Peck. She was also involved in national publicity for *Worth* magazine and securing print publicity for Fortune's 60th anniversary celebration, and

has tie-in promotions with leading film companies.

Mendelson does publicity for her husband's company, Byron Preiss Multimedia, which produces books from classics to cartoons, as well as the Bank Street Ready-to-Read Series and Seinfeld Screensaver on CD-ROM. The couple, who met at the American Book Association Convention in 1980, has two daughters, Blaire, 3, and Karah, 7. "We cover for each other," Mendelson says of combining two intense careers with two children.

Though she has to travel from time to time, she hires escorts for her clients when they travel from city to city flogging their books. She does, though, act personally as escort to "Oprah," where she stays behind the scenes, helping clients get their messages out. "Writing is very isolating; then the author has to step out and talk about it. These take two different



Sandi Mendelson, literary "mega-publicist" behind the books we love to read (and talk about).

kinds of talents and attention,” she says. “Some authors are good at it. Some are not. I do a lot of media coaching.”

This is where she finds her background in sociology helpful. “I am interested in what about a subject, an individual, an idea gets under a person’s skin. I’m good at figuring out what the pitch is: How do you condense a 350-page book in four minutes and make people want to read it?”

Asked for humorous anecdotes about handling authors and others with sometimes out-of-control egos, Mendelson laughs, but declines. “A lot of funny things happen, but telling them would violate my clients. I can tell you about how acts of nature can destroy the best-laid plans. I was once in Portland, Oregon, promoting a series of books about the West. Had recreated a covered wagon, had people dressed up as pioneers. The mayor of Portland had promised to appear and give visibility to the event. Then a reporter comes up to me and says, ‘I don’t think you’re going to get much attention here today. Mount St. Helens has just erupted.’

“Well, then you say, okay; that puts things in perspective,” Mendelson laughs. “You can orchestrate and orchestrate, and one event can put you off the media for days—the Gulf War, O. J. . . . you never know. But then, you can use *that*. Certain events you can grab for a topical book. You can hook into something going on in the news, environment, get an angle that will help your book.

“Without a good ‘back story’—the person’s already a celebrity, or the author has got a three-million advance and

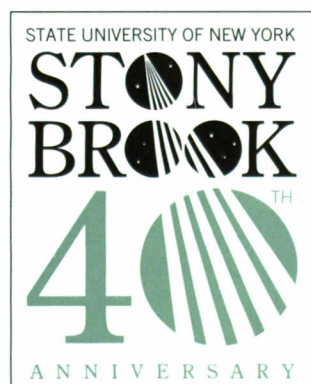
Robert Redford has bought it for another three million, as happened with Nicholas Evans’ *The Horse Whisperer*—good word of mouth can still sell a book. We use anything we can: author’s bio, topical themes, throw a party. The bottom line is to begin the word of mouth.”

Mendelson has served as distinguished lecturer at UC-Berkeley and at San Francisco State, and recently won the Literary Marketplace Award for outside services and advertising, promotion and publicity for Anne Geddes’ *Down in the Garden*. She studies how people hear about a book. “People say they read a review, had already read other books by the same author, but three-fourths of them say a friend read it and told them it was a good read.” For this reason, Mendelson tries to get books into the hands of “high-profile people who might like it. There are 60,000 books a year published, and so few get publicized. It’s tough to break in.”

Mendelson says she loved her years at Stony Brook—“I never moved off-campus; I made strong, close relationships that have endured.” And she also loves her work. “I am fortunate that I could parlay my liberal arts degree into a great career. I have a passion for reading, and I get to work with brilliant writers, good people, genteel individuals you can get excited about and respect.”

How do you get to Carnegie Hall? *Practice, practice, practice*. How do you get 80 books on the *New York Times* best-seller list? If you ask super-publicist Sandi Mendelson, she’ll tell you that studying at Stony Brook is a pretty good place to start.★

AN ANNIVERSARY MOMENT



Stony Brook is celebrating its 40th birthday. Alumni and friends will hear about the events planned for this special year. Here, you may take forty seconds or so to reflect on a brief episode in Stony Brook’s history.

WHAT WERE THEY THINKING?!

Today he is one of New York’s most esteemed preservation architects, best known for historic restorations of George Washington’s New York headquarters, the South Street Seaport Museum, and more.

Why, then, did architect Jan Hird Pokorny leave Stony Brook the less-than-splendid legacy of concrete slabs and brown bricks?

“It had to do with the time in which we worked,” says Pokorny, one-third of the firm of Damaz-Pokorny-Weigel, which drew the campus master plan some forty years ago. “The state university system was growing beyond belief. Governor Rockefeller, who was an architecture buff, wanted us to accommodate further growth.

“The old brick buildings were trying to be Georgian, but the programs we were building for were too big. When you stretch red brick for 200 feet or more, you end up with long, ugly barracks.”

The old Student Union, begun in 1965, was the first building in a construction program that was to last for ten years. Pokorny’s small firm won the \$5 million contract for the Union, then joined with other architects when the job was expanded to a \$50 million master plan.

“Unfortunately,” says Pokorny, “the Union was finished just before the student upheavals in 1969. They took over the courtyard for their rabble-rousing, and they cut the rug up in the lounge and took it in pieces to their dorms.”

Pokorny and his colleagues were charged with building a state-of-the-art library to hold two million volumes—quadrupling the size of the old facility—but were told they could not destroy the old building. So they started to build around it, until they ran into a problem.

“When we went to surround the old library with the new one, we couldn’t touch the old foundation, or we’d damage it,” Pokorny recalls. “So we had to build 25 feet from the old building.” They bridged the gap with tall, skylighted sections that look to us now like an extended atrium.

Pokorny calls the Administration building “a strange duckling.” Of the Staller Center, he says, “By this time, we were told not to use much glass, because that wasted energy.”

Recalling Stony Brook’s growth spurt during the 1960s and 1970s, the courtly octogenarian smiles. “It was a boom time for architects. This never happened before or since; everyone was looking for new talent.” For Stony Brook, “this was a new era.”★

CLASS ACTION

"Class Action" submissions from 1962 - 1980 appeared in the previous issue of The Brook.

1981: Douglas Stein and wife Susan Stein '82 live in Massachusetts. Douglas just published *Mathematica in the Laboratory* with Cambridge University Press; he is a cyberspace architect for USWeb Utopia. Susan is a senior software engineer at Fidelity Investments ★ Dentist Steve Pleickhardt moved to Moscow in August 1996, to begin a career in international health care. Peter Kuhl and wife, Louisa (Navarro) live in Bedford, MA with their son Andy and daughter Shea Angelica. Peter is a principal systems engineer at the MITRE Corporation and Louisa is a part-time professor at the Wentworth Institute of Technology. They met at Stony Brook, but it took Peter 10 years to ask Louisa to marry him ★ Stuart Sharoff lives in East Brunswick, NJ, with his wife Roxanne, daughter Brittany and son Michael **1982:** Catherine Wang is an attorney with the firm Swidler & Berlin in Washington, D.C. She and her husband, Ken Bass, live in Arlington, VA, and have a son, Daniel Alexander Bass Wang, and are expecting a baby in December of this year ★ Joanne Oldi Capone and her husband have been married for nine years and live in Guilderland, NY. They have adopted two children

from Korea—Michael Lee, age 3½, and Jessica, age 2 ★ Eileen Thailer is working as an education advocate for homeless children and their families at H.E.L.P. Suffolk, the largest shelter on



Fred Scholldorf, VP at Reuters

Long Island **1983:** Deborah G. Smolenski is a marketing manager for Boyd Lighting Company. She is married to Thomas Athens, a United Airlines aircraft engineer. They live in San Francisco ★ Ingrid (Maio) Marshall is a partner in the CPA firm of Marshall and Marshall, and is also an adjunct professor in the financial engineering department at Polytechnic University in Brooklyn, NY. Ingrid and husband Thomas have three sons, Tommy (7), Nicky (4), and Peter (2) ★ Steven Busuttill has completed his vascular surgery fellowship at Geisinger Medical Center in Pennsylvania ★ Russell John

Craig of West Islip, NY, and Donna Christine Yost of Sauk City, WI, were married on June 10, 1995. Russell is an international buyer for the Yost Company, an electronics firm. They live in Madison, WI ★ Brianne O'Brien married Frank Bellapianta '81 on October 15, 1994 ★ The Rev. Ted Howard was named the Rocky Point Lions 1995 Citizen of the Year. He has been a priest for 32 years and is currently pastor of St. Mark's Roman Catholic Church in Shoreham, NY **1984:** Carolyn Dessel is a physician assistant practicing in an orthopaedic hospital in New York City ★ Patricia (McGraw) Berger is a physical therapist, and has two children ★ Marguerite Daly has a new job. She's product implementation manager for Universal Algorithms in Portland, OR ★ Irwin Jankovic is staff director of human resources for the Boeing Company in Los Angeles, CA. He and his wife Lori have two children, daughter Sabrina Lee and her older brother Mitchell ★ Michael Langer is director of Strategic Planning for Schein Pharmaceutical, Inc. in Florham Park, NJ. He has two sons, aged 7 and 4 ★ Fred Scholldorf has been promoted to vice president of Transaction Systems Development at Reuters in Hauppauge, NY. When not traversing the globe, Fred is happy at home "on the range" in Kings Park with his wife, Joanne, and daughters Alexandra and Rebecca ★ George Vailakis is a senior scientist at Lockheed Martin, and is working on a government contract. He lives in Randolph, NJ **1985:** Tracy Stewart-Flamenbaum is in dental private practice in Huntington, NY, where she lives with her husband Todd, and their daughter, Brittney. Tracy is chair of the Council on the New Dentist of the Dental Society of New York, and is president of the Suffolk County Dental Society ★ Steve Kahn of Wyandanch, NY was a contributor to the NCAA and NBA sections of a sports publication called *The National Sports Review*, which was on news-

stands until May 1995. He is the P.A. announcer for men's and women's basketball at St. Francis College in Brooklyn ★ Timothy Lenane and his wife, Karen, live in Yorktown Heights, NY. He is an attorney with Schiavetti, Geisler, Corgan, et al. He recently successfully argued in the Appellate Division to overturn a lower court summary judgement decision ★ Rosemary (Chevere) Ramos teaches sixth grade science and in addition to teaching occasionally as a respiratory therapist, she is at home with her four daughters. Rosemary is married to Ivan Ramos ★ Douglas R. Bacon assumed the duties of chief of anesthesiology for Buffalo VAMC on February 1, 1995. In May 1994, he earned a master's degree in history from SUNY at Buffalo. He lives in Buffalo with his wife, Maureen. They are expecting their fourth child in November. He has also become associate professor of anesthesiology ★ James F. Gesualdi is an

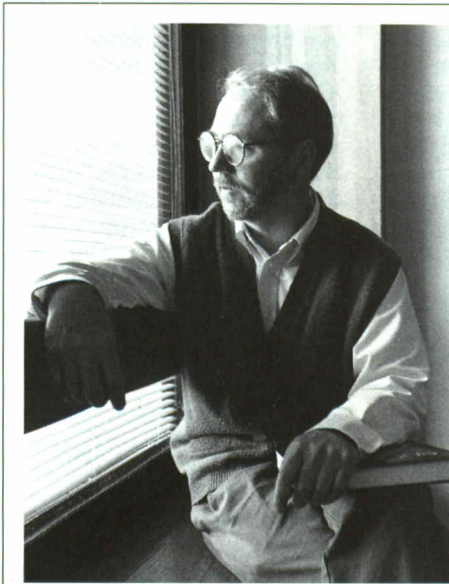


Dentist Tracy Stewart-Flamenbaum

attorney with Cahn, Wishod & Lamb in Melville, NY **1986:** John McAvoy recently was selected to fly with HCS-4, a Navy special warfare support helicopter squadron (a reserve position) ★ Irene Papoulis has a son, Cyrus, who was born on December 9, 1995. Irene teaches at Trinity College in Hartford, CT ★ Donna Marie Romito will complete her fellowship in pulmonary and critical care medicine this year; she'll then move to Florida to practice ★ Brian T. Gottesman earned his medical degree from



JOANNA LAU '81 recently received an international World Young Business Achiever Award from the WORLDCOM Group. Lau is president of Lau Technologies, a Massachusetts-based electronic systems manufacturer. When Lau bought the company (then known as Bowmar/ALI) in 1990, it was struggling to survive. Since then, its revenues have grown from \$7 million to \$65 million, and Lau Technologies has added 150 employees to its payroll. In 1995 *Inc.* magazine named Joanna Lau its "Turnaround Entrepreneur of the Year."



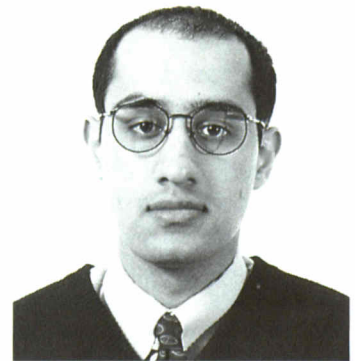
KEVIN DELANEY '87, '89 has been recognized for distinguished teaching by Temple University, where he is a professor of sociology. Delaney received Temple's Lindback Award for Distinguished Teaching; the award, among the oldest honoring teaching in higher education, carries a cash prize of \$3,000. Besides sociology classes, Delaney teaches a "Men and Masculinity" course in the women's studies program at Temple. His colleagues call his teaching style "original and provocative."

SUNY Health Science Center at Brooklyn last May. His wife, Beth Flam, is an elementary school computer teacher in Brooklyn. She earned a master's degree from Brooklyn College. They have a new baby girl, born July 1, 1997, named Sydney. They reside in Elmhurst, NY ★ **Jenny Kleinman** has been teaching Spanish for eight years. She earned her MS in bilingual education from Hunter College. Jenny does improvisation with the Waterloo Bridge Theater Company. She is engaged to Carlos Blanco ★ **Andrea (Goodstein) Stolzenberg** and husband, Howard, moved to a home in Scarsdale, NY with daughter Rachel. They were expecting a second child in September '95 ★ **1987: Frank R. Egan** has purchased an orthodontic practice in East Patchogue, and lives in Bayport, NY. He was recently married to Christine; son Frank R. Egan III was born October 4, 1996 ★ **Alicia Hermo-Weaver** is a career counselor at Montclair State University. She married Philip Weaver in June 1991. She says, "After being diagnosed with leukemia in 1993 and having had a bone marrow transplant in 1994, I am healthy and ready to start thinking about children." Alicia and Philip, we send you our best wishes ★ **Ellen Keiser** is a freelance writer, mostly for newspapers. She has won several awards from the Society of Professional Journalists. She wants to start writing a book soon ★ **Eilene Brown** recently started her own law practice in Brooklyn, NY. She specializes in family and small

business law ★ **Scott L. Gross** has a family medical practice in Northport, NY, where he lives with his wife, Wendy, their son Michael and their baby daughter Casey ★ **1988: Jacqueline Poor Hahn** works from home as a meeting planner. Husband Kenneth Hahn is a family doctor in a clinic. They have a one-year-old son, Andrew ★ **Lorraine Persan Catalano** has a private pediatrics practice in Commack, NY. Her son Michael is almost three years old ★ **Lucille Eaton** is a science instructor at Durham Technical Community College in Durham, NC. She also is the mother of teenaged twins (a boy and a girl) ★ **1990: Melani Sessa (Hess)** was married in August 1996, and received her M.I.M. from the American Graduate School of International Management. She is a marketing associate for Maryknoll Mission Association of the Faithful, and manages the direct mail fundraising program for the laity division of Maryknoll ★ **Jennifer (Corbett) DeLeonardis** and James DeLeonardis live in Malverne, NY. James is looking for a dental practice to buy within the year, in Queens or on Long Island. Jennifer is a group teacher at the John Oravec Child Care Center in Brooklyn ★ **Thomas Peter** completed a nephrology fellowship at the University of California San Diego and Balboa Naval Medical Center ★ **1991: Brenda Zeisman** is a teacher in Huntington, NY ★ **Brian D. Cameron** was married to Mary P. Hynes, a graduate of St. John's University, on October 1, 1994.

They live in West Islip, NY, and Mary works at New York Life Insurance Company in New York City. They had a son on June 13, 1996. His name is Matthew Brian Cameron ★ **Kevin Cordes** works at Symbol Technologies as an analog engineer. He resides in Coram, NY ★ **John D'Angelo** married Dawn Stoddart, on May 28, 1995, at Bethal Lutheran Church in Huntington Station, NY. John works as a resident in the emergency room at Geisinger Medical Center in Danville, PA ★ **Thomas Giusto and Jennifer Sperling** '92 were married June 24, 1995, in Northport, NY ★ **Christina M. Virgona-Nathanson** and husband, Mitchell Nathanson ('89), were married in 1993 and live in Stamford, CT. Christa is a marketing research analyst for Duracell, Inc. Mitchell is a senior actuarial assistant for Buck Consultants ★ **Michael Sherwood** teaches social studies at William Cullen Bryant High School in Queens. He lives in West Babylon, NY ★ **Donna Gallagher** works at Ayuda Inc./Clinica Legal Latina as a staff attorney, representing foreign-born victims of domestic violence. She is engaged to Gregory Browne, an investment analyst with Cambridge and Associates. They will be married in May 1998 ★ **1992: Michelle (Estabrook) Virga** is a district social worker in Hampton Bays, NY, and is a therapist at the Riverhead Mental Health Clinic. She is expecting her first child in December ★ **Scott Van Hatten** earned the Juris Doctor degree from New York Law School in June 1995. He is currently legal counsel in derivative securities for the American Stock Exchange ★ **Michelle Leberberg** is a speech/language pathologist for the Ossining School District in Ossining, NY. She and Scott Reich just became engaged and are planning a wedding for the summer of 1998. Scott is a mortgage appraiser ★ **1993: Siobhan Conaty** was guest curator of "Art of This Century: The Women", an exhibition shown at the University's Pollock-Krasner House and Study Center. "The Women" featured the works of female artists who showed at Peggy Guggenheim's legendary New York City gallery (called Art of This Century) in the 1940s. The exhibit, which marked the 100th anniversary of Guggenheim's birth, was the

House and Study Center's first international project ★ **Alex Karavousanos** works full-time at Market Guide in the area of client/vendor support, and on the side manages money for clients and acts as an independent financial planner ★ **Michelle Michitsch** is attending Stony Brook's School of Nursing for a masters degree in child health nursing, and plans to become a pediatric nurse practitioner ★ **Phil Rose** is editor of *Sacred City* magazine ★ **Stephen J. Augeri** is currently enrolled in the master of arts in teaching program at Quinnipiac College in Hamden, CT. He's pursuing a master's degree in education and a teaching certificate in social studies for secondary education ★ **Elvira E. Lecker** of Sayville, NY, was involved in a number of archaeological digs at Orient, Middle Island and Mt. Sinai, NY, from 1989-94, and also taught archaeological investigative techniques to elementary school students. She now is working for the Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults as coordinator of volunteers. She also serves on the board of directors of the Sayville Historical Society and teaches fourth grade programs for the Society ★ **Dr. Denise Emma** is proud to announce the opening of her own practice in Garden City, NY ★ **1994: Nathanael Wright** will graduate from Suffolk University Law School in spring 1988 ★ **Arthur Connell** married Jennifer Willis on April 1, 1995 ★ **Joanna Lurie** is the laboratory information systems coordinator for North Shore Health Systems ★ **Michael Crudele** is pursuing his M.B.A. in finance from St. Johns University ★ **1995: Anthony Culmore** will enter New York Chiropractic College in January 1998 ★ **Mohit Khosla** is marketing manager in the international sales division of Power Business



Mohit Khosla, marketing manager

for Black & Veatch, a leading global engineering, procurement and construction firm. Mohit started at Black & Veatch (which specializes in the energy environment process and buildings sector) as a summer intern. He says he still plays squash (a sport he discovered at Stony Brook) ★ *Teola Ghyll* has a private social work practice, with a fellow Stony Brook graduate, in Commack, NY. The name of the practice is There is Hope Counseling Services, offering counseling for individuals, families, DWI, substance abuse, etc. ★ *Maria Fenton* works at NYU as a nurse. She just got engaged, and will be married on August

16, 1998 ★ *Jennifer Leatrice Goode* received a master's of science degree in education (counseling) from C. W. Post in 1995. Currently she's enrolled at the New York College of Podiatric Medicine, and will receive her degree in May 1999 ★ *Tania Maneiro* is an ophthalmic assistant who will soon take the test for certification in her profession. She's also applying to optometry schools, for enrollment in the 1998 year ★ *Carl Argila* is an advertising account executive for Bozell Worldwide 1996. *Douglas S. Cody* is married and has one child. He is employed at Nassau Community College as a departmental

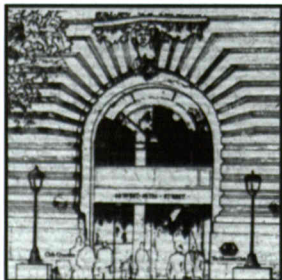
health and safety officer of the chemistry department. He also teaches general chemistry, is the author of two general chemistry lab manuals, and is secretary of the American Society of Safety Engineers' Long Island chapter ★ *Alexander Mills* will soon become a border patrol trooper. He reports that his sister Kari is due to start Stony Brook as a junior, and his brother John will enter Stony Brook as a freshman ★ *Brian Wilson* is attending the master's of business administration program at Long Island University ★ *Marilyn McKee* is working in a private psychiatric hospital in Buffalo, and is looking into

graduate school for counseling psychology or social work ★ *Chi Yung Yeung* is a PC technician ★ *Alcides Martinez* is a software developer for Cole Systems Associates, Inc. in New York City. She says her company is "shifting direction from accounting software to client/server development, which is more exciting and profitable." She'll soon be leasing her first new car. Happy motoring!

PASSINGS: Judith Klein reports that, sadly, *Patricia Bredel* passed away on March 20, 1996 after a long illness. Dr. Bredel was a graduate fellow at Stony Brook during the late 1960s.★

ATTENTION ALUMNI!

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THE CHEMISTS' CLUB IN
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The University at Stony Brook has affiliated with The Chemists' Club in New York City. This historic club is located near many other university clubs, at 40 West 45th, not far from Grand Central Station.

The club offers elegance, comfort, economical accommodations and excellent service, along with a kitchen whose first-class chef is as attentive to one diner as to fifty.

AN OLD NEW YORK CLUB

Founded one hundred years ago, and with a distinguished history, the Chemists' Club is a vigorous fellowship composed of a diverse group of men and women who share a keen interest in the sciences. Its more recent affiliation with distinguished universities adds richness through the joining of those with interests in arts and humanities. The club today is a unique group of people who share common interests and diverse opinions.

Superb facilities offer an exceptional setting in which Stony Brook faculty and alumni can enjoy coffee or cocktails and conversation for a few, or can stage an event. The club has three private meeting rooms that can accommodate breakfasts, luncheons, dinners, special parties, and business meetings. The elegant Rumford Hall on the main floor is also available for small groups or parties.

Along with formal dining room and quarters for private dining, the Stony Brook Club has a reading room, banquet hall, and bedrooms.

Prices are moderate, and the club provides professional business facilities and concierge services in a lovely setting in a metropolitan environment.

FELLOWSHIP AND INTELLECTUAL EXCHANGE

Complete arrangements for meetings, banquets and events are available. Proximity to mid-town offices, Grand Central, Fifth Avenue and the Broadway theatre district makes the club a convenient location for meetings and small conferences.

Membership in the club includes access to economical, gracious overnight accommodations for members and guests. For instant check-in and fast check-out, the club accepts American Express, Visa, and Mastercard.

Your membership card enables you to sign for food and beverage services; monthly billing allows a cash-free environment.

Reciprocal privileges are granted at more than thirty private clubs in major cities throughout the world.

MEMBERSHIP

For a century, The Chemists' Club has been a center for scholarly exchange. Only recently has it opened its membership to select universities so that faculty, administrators, and alumni can enjoy full benefits of this old New York institution. Other affiliates include Georgetown University, Rutgers University, Smith College and others. On Wednesday evenings the club holds a college mixer for its affiliates.

Room rates at Club Quarters start at \$99, with special weekend and holiday rates. All rates are based on availability.

For information about club tours, please contact
Tori Hansen, The Chemists' Club
40 West 45th Street
New York, New York 10036
212/626-9300

For membership information or application, contact
The State University of New York at Stony Brook
William and Jane Knapp Alumni Center
Melville Library
Room E1315
Stony Brook, New York 11794-3354
516/632-6330

FIVE TIMES THE PRIDE

The Boussios clan shows its support

After raising a family of five, Gregory and Mary Boussios have some life lessons to share: work hard. Never hold a grudge. Send your kids to Stony Brook.

All of the Boussios children attend Stony Brook, or are Stony Brook alumni (some several times over), starting with daughter Eugenia, who now holds a bachelor's and two master's degrees (she also teaches in the Cyber Learning Center at the Harriman School for Management and Policy). Eugenia was later joined by siblings Fifi (who also holds a bachelor's and two master's degrees); Athanassia, who is finishing up her bachelor's degree; Socrates (bachelor's and master's; he

return the money in two months, but by the end of two weeks he had paid his debt.

Gregory says that same sense of responsibility explains his family's continuing support of Stony Brook. He's told his children to "help the school and be an example to others of how to help. It's not enough to just get in and get out; you should be involved one hundred percent.

"I am very proud of the school, and of my children," Gregory says. "They've worked hard at Stony Brook and had a hell of a time. If you can achieve that, that's the main thing in life, isn't it?"



The family Boussios (left to right): Socrates, Fifi, Athanassia, Emanuel, Mary, Eugenia and Gregory. Collectively they hold 10 plus degrees.

now is pursuing a doctoral degree at Stony Brook); and Emanuel, who will soon complete his master's work after receiving a bachelor's degree from Stony Brook. They all have studied economics, business, and technology and society, and work with their parents in the family real estate business.

Why did the Boussios clan pick Stony Brook? Gregory, who has taught economics at a number of universities, says he and his wife "checked the faculty very carefully. We thought the school had a great future." And though they had some influence on oldest daughter Eugenia's decision to attend Stony Brook, her siblings needed no urging. "The first one said, 'I love it', and the others followed," Gregory recalls.

All five plunged into their studies with gusto, finishing their degrees early—inspired, perhaps, by their father's example. Gregory Boussios arrived in America with fifty cents in his pocket, his passage from Greece secured with borrowed funds from a stateside relative. Gregory promised to

After sending five children to Stony Brook, Gregory and Mary Boussios appreciate the affordability of a public education. They have demonstrated that appreciation during the past six years by supporting the University's Parents Campaign (part of Stony Brook's Annual Fund). This year the two are co-chairing the Campaign, which has so far raised \$150,000. We use your contributions to the Annual Fund to support student scholarships and student programs.

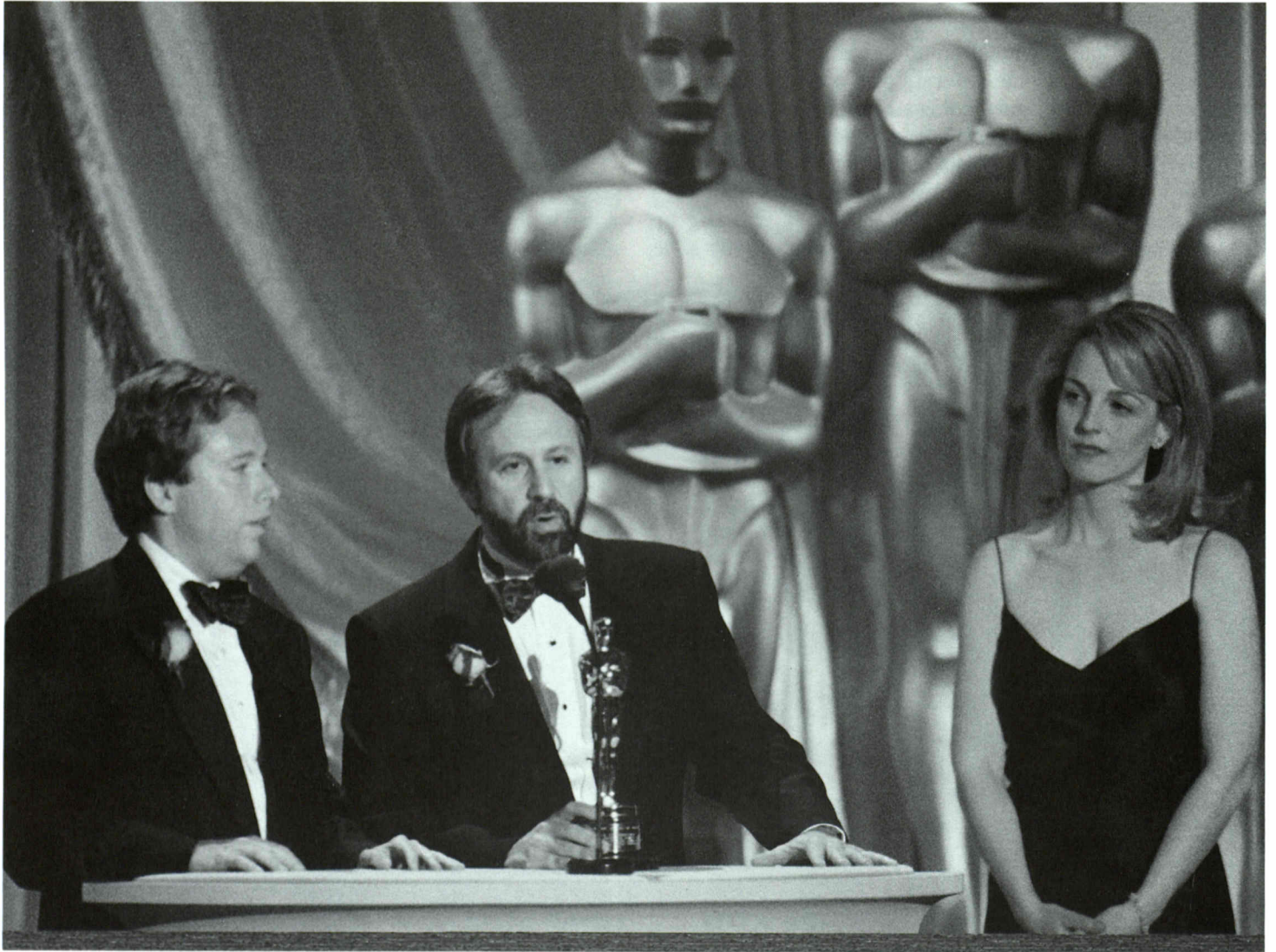
Stony Brook needs your help. Please send your donation (payable to the Stony Brook Foundation) to:

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University at Stony Brook
Stony Brook, NY 11794-1601

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AND THE ENVELOPE, PLEASE!

IMAX's big success earns Rich Gelfond '76 an Academy Award



Rich Gelfond '76 (left) and partner Brad Wechsler thank the Academy, while actress Helen Hunt looks on.

IMAX is big. The giant-screen entertainment company co-run by Rich Gelfond '76 shows its films on screens so immense—up to eight stories high and 100 feet wide—that audiences not only watch the movies, they're almost in them. More than 500 million people have seen an IMAX film, 70 million last year alone. The company, worth well over half a billion dollars, was named 1996's number two performer of any entertainment stock.

So it would take something pretty spectacular to top all that... something like an Academy Award. Recently Gelfond and his partner Brad Wechsler received a special award for "science and technical achievement," the only one given by the Academy this year. Though the presentation was made several weeks before the actual Oscar telecast, Gelfond's acceptance speech was broadcast as part of the show. Gelfond was "a little bit nervous" at the prospect of being viewed by one billion people (including actress Helen Hunt, star of

television's *Mad About You*, who presented the partners with their award).

Gelfond calls himself "an entrepreneur since birth." As a high school student, he published a sports newspaper with a circulation of 25,000. He wrote for *Newsday* while still in college, and was sports editor for *Statesman*. Though IMAX and a former political science major with a law degree might sound like an odd match, Gelfond—who has run a number of businesses—says he's always been intrigued by the media and entertainment industries. He and partner Wechsler bought IMAX three years ago, attracted by the well-known brand name and the company's potential. IMAX now has expanded into other attractions—the company made the "Back to the Future" ride at Universal Studios theme park, and will open a new ride in Las Vegas this year—and Gelfond says IMAX is on "a huge growth curve."★

THE LATEST ALUMNI

From the skirling bagpipes of the Saffron Kilts to the recessional played by the Long Island Brass Guild, Commencement 1997 was a joyful day of dreams realized and goals achieved. President Kenny gave the commencement address, noting that "Stony Brook has risen to the top in only 40 years... from potato fields to academic eminence." Among those feted were honorary degree recipients Susie Orbach '75, a pioneer in the field of feminist psychotherapy; sculptor Norman Mercer, and Myung Oh '72. Dr. Oh has been credited with playing a key role in his native Korea's "economic miracle"; he served as Korea's Minister of Telecommunications and today is president of *Dong-A Ilbo*, one of Korea's most influential daily newspapers.



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Grads and families assembled in the Sports Complex



Joy and Pride

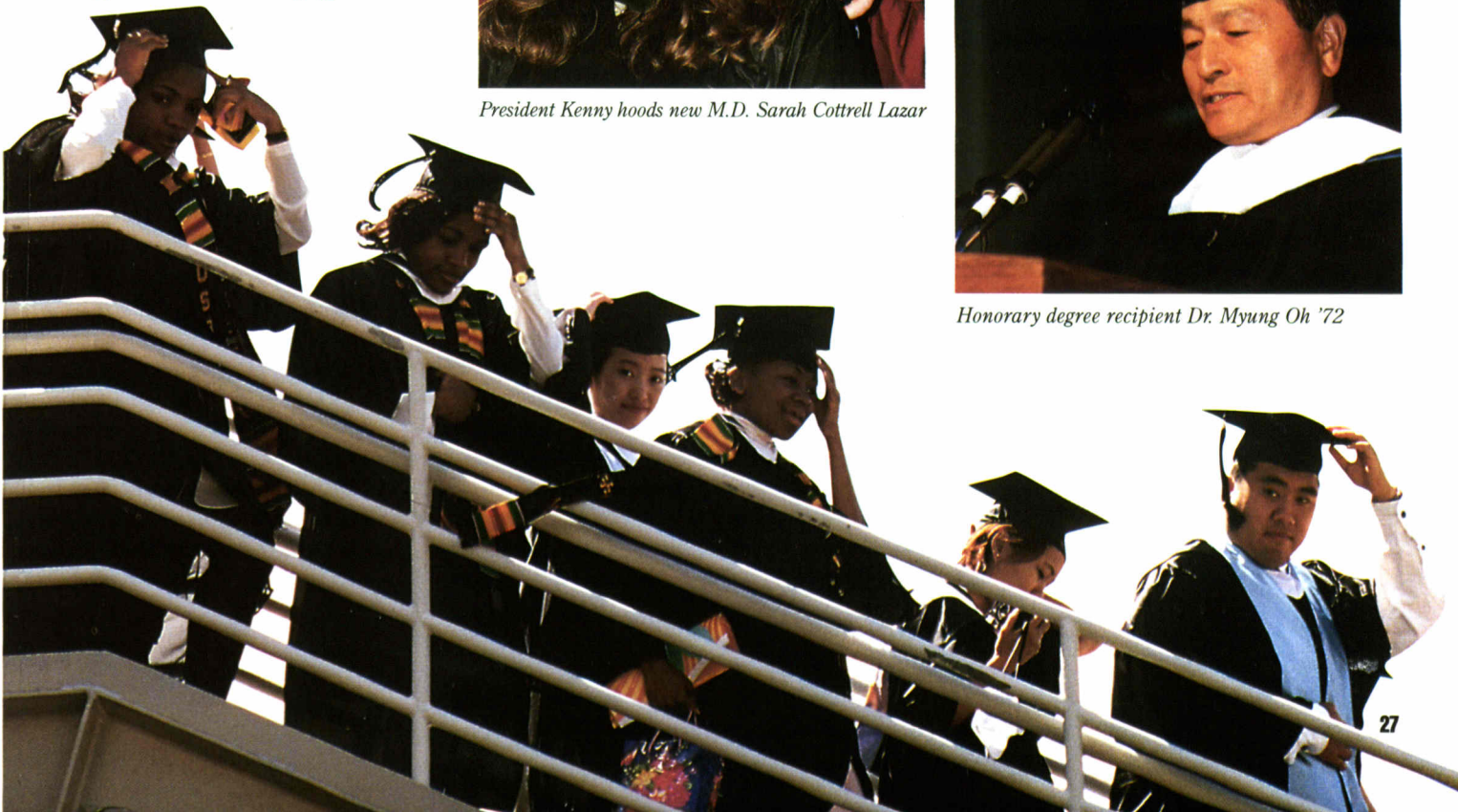


President Kenny hoods new M.D. Sarah Cottrell Lazar



Smiles say it all

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Honorary degree recipient Dr. Myung Oh '72

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THE AMERICANIZATION OF SUSIE

Pioneer psychotherapist Susie Orbach '75 embraces two continents

What do women want? The answer eluded Sigmund Freud—even, he claimed, after “thirty years of research into the feminine soul.” Susie Orbach, Stony Brook alumna and pioneer in the field of feminist psychotherapy, might have a thing or two to tell the father of modern analysis.

Orbach co-founded the Women’s Therapy Centre in London and the Women’s Therapy Centre Institute, a post-graduate training



Susie Orbach '75

institution, in New York City. She has strong ties to both places, having arrived in the United States in 1968 after growing up in England. Though she didn’t plan to stay, Orbach found America “too exciting” to leave. “It was a moment of youth coming of age and trying to remake the world, and they were definitely remaking it in America,” she recalls. “I just couldn’t go back.” After completing college at the City University of New York, Orbach received a master’s degree in 1975 from Stony Brook’s School of Social Welfare.

She visited the campus on commencement day, to accept an honorary doctorate.

Orbach returned to England when her partner, American psychology professor and psychotherapist Joseph Schwartz, took a sabbatical there (“I wanted to see what it would be like to be a grownup in my own country.”) They remained in England, where they live today with their two children. When asked which

continent is home, Orbach (who speaks an intriguing blend of streetwise New Yorkese and perfectly proper English) replies, “Both. I’m very much a New York Jew at the same time as I’m English, and a Londoner.”

Orbach is the author of seven books; her 1981 best-seller *Fat is a Feminist Issue* was a seminal work in the now-extensive scholarly literature on women and eating disorders. Her latest work-in-progress is a book of imagined stories told from the therapist’s point of view.

Orbach is a member of Antidote, a British think tank that articulates social and political issues in a

psychological context. The debate over whether Britain should formally join Europe is one of the group’s concerns. “The arguments, I think, are not so much a political agenda as a psychological agenda: make everything bad in Europe and then we will be okay,” Orbach explains. “It’s actually a way for Britain to not really have to come to terms with the end of empire.”★

Editor’s Note: It was widely acknowledged in the press that Orbach was therapist to the late Diana, Princess of Wales. Bound by professional and ethical constraints, Orbach can neither confirm nor deny the relationship.

A WALK ON THE WILD SIDE

Lisa Cassenti has a primitive experience

Go to bookstore. Finish writing paper. Board flight to South American rain forest.

Just a typical day for Stony Brook student Lisa Cassenti, who spent five months studying capuchin monkeys in the wild. She was the only undergraduate on an international team of researchers led by Charles Janson, a behavioral ecologist in the Department of Ecology and Evolution.

Cassenti studied the feeding behavior of monkeys in Puerto Iguazu, a subtropical region in Argentina. At night she practiced her Spanish, read letters from her family (“I did miss them,” she reports, “but I was too busy to be upset”) and took turns cooking communal meals.

Her apprenticeship in the field transformed Cassenti from an amateur researcher to the real thing. She learned how to collect data and record it in her field notebook, and how to practice correct scientific procedure in the wild. Her colleagues taught her how to scramble across the hilly terrain without losing sight of the monkeys. “You have to almost march, really pick up your feet,” she says. “Many times I fell.” But despite the rigors of the field (poisonous spiders and the rainy Argentine winter), Cassenti can’t wait to get back.

The monkey troupe became “like family,” she says. “They each have such distinct personalities.” Her favorite was Gino, an infant capuchin. “He has a beautiful face,” Cassenti confides, sounding like a proud relative. “He’s very popular in the group.” When she returns to Puerto Iguazu, she wants to bring her human family to meet the monkeys.

Before her trip, Cassenti had some research experience with insects, but longed to work with primates. A friend suggested she introduce herself to Janson, who agreed to take her along to Argentina. “He’d had problems with undergraduates before—they got there and wanted to go home,” Cassenti says. “But he really took a chance on me, and I’m so grateful for that. I don’t know how else I would’ve gotten to go.”

“Yeah, I was taking a chance,” Janson admits. “But I feel people who are sincerely interested in doing research in the field should be encouraged. The more information we get about wild animals, especially in the tropics where environmental damage is occurring so quickly, the better off we are.” Janson helped Cassenti turn her experience into an independent research project, which she presented to the Honors College last spring.

Cassenti was recognized for her work with a monetary award from the Tony and Aspacia Poulis Scholarship, established by Stony Brook alumnus Demetri Poulis in honor of his parents.★



Lisa Cassenti, a woman in the wilds.



But can they stay afloat? Four friends prepare to cross Roth Pond during the annual Stony Brook Regatta race. All "boats" must be constructed only of cardboard and duct tape.

WUSB 90.1 TURNS 20

Hard to believe, but on June 27 WUSB celebrated 20 years of broadcasting at 90.1 on the FM band. WUSB started out in the 1960s as a "carrier current" station conducted through phone lines and heard only by dorm residents. Today it covers Long Island from the East End to the New York City line, thanks to a 1995 move to an off-campus transmitter, and broadcasts 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

VIVA STONY BROOK!

The Hispanic Outlook in Higher Education magazine named Stony Brook one of 100 top colleges and universities in the country for Hispanics. Criteria for making the list were: responses to a survey, a look at catalogs and other literature, financial aid, programs for English as a second language, number of Hispanics graduating at the bachelor's and master's degree levels, Hispanic faculty and administrators, Hispanic campus organizations, and campus services that help Hispanic students.

OH, BABY!

There was a commotion on campus when six prospective students showed up for their first look at Stony Brook. But though they caused a stir, the six—all siblings—didn't say very much. In fact, they pretty much slept through the whole thing. That's because the half dozen visitors were newborns, sextuplets born at University Hospital on March 24. President Shirley Strum Kenny gave their grateful parents, Beverly and Rocco Boniello, an unexpected baby gift: six four-year, undergraduate

scholarships to the university (combined value: \$81,600). The babies, who'll join the Class of 2015 if they meet the University's entry requirements, are already "Stony Brook kids," said President Kenny, who presented them with tiny Stony Brook Seawolf shirts.

FINDING THE "ON" SWITCH

A team of Stony Brook researchers announced in April the discovery of a key abnormality thought to trigger cancer in the human breast. The group found that breast cancer cells have high levels of mitogen-activated protein kinases (map kinases), enzymes that switch cell growth on and off. In patients with breast cancer, these enzymes were present at levels five to twenty times higher than in normal breast tissue cells. Elevated map kinase causes cells to proliferate, say the researchers, likely producing breast cancer.

An elevated level of map kinases could provide an easily measured marker for primary breast cancer. And, the researchers say, it may be possible to treat breast cancer with a specially crafted molecule that would turn off the "grow switch" activated in the cell by map kinases. This technique, called "antisense oligonucleotide therapeutics", has already been developed by Stony Brook researchers, and is currently in early clinical trials for other human diseases.

The Journal of Clinical Investigation, which published the findings, called the Stony Brook discovery "extremely exciting," and said it bears "the

potential of identifying an important therapeutic target... We should have to wait only a short time to find out the generality and potential therapeutic usefulness of the findings on hyperexpression."

The team was led by Dr. Craig Malbon, vice dean of University Medical Center; other researchers were Stony Brook faculty Dr. Vimala Sivaraman, assistant professor of surgery; Dr. Hsien-yu Wang, assistant research professor of physiology and biophysics; and Dr. Gerard J. Nuovo, currently in private practice but a former chief of cytopathology at University Medical Center. Funding for the study, which took more than two years, was provided by the American Cancer Society, the William and Florence Catacosinos Cancer Fund, Stony Brook's Department of Surgery, the Center for Advanced Biotechnology on campus, and the Diabetes and Metabolic Disease Research Program.

CAREER SERVICES FOR ALUMNI

Job-hunting alumni now can take advantage of new services offered by the campus Career Placement Center.

The Center lists nationwide job opportunities on the Internet (the password for alumni is "zebrapath," so named because the Center is located at the foot of the zebra-painted walkway alongside the Melville Library). Workshops and on-campus recruitment fairs also are open to alumni; to find out when and where, access the Center's Web page at <http://www.sunysb.edu/career/> or call the Center at 516-632-6810.

One-on-one career counseling also is available by appointment.

Alumni who would like to hire Stony Brook students can meet with them in the newly renovated Center's interview suites. Students also need career planning tips, from alumni willing to serve on panel discussions or give advice. If you can help, call Center director Tim Luzader at the number listed above.

The Center's services are free. It is located in Room W-0550 of the Melville Library on campus. Hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, and until 7 p.m. on Tuesdays.

USB BREAKS \$100 MILLION MARK IN RESEARCH

Gail Habicht, Stony Brook's Vice President for Research, has announced that in Fiscal Year 1997, the university's annual expenditures from sponsored research projects will exceed \$100 million dollars. In 25 years, external support for Stony Brook's research projects has grown from under \$9 million in 1973 to more than \$106 million. This support is expected to have a ripple effect on the regional economy, said Habicht; it is estimated that \$450 million in local business results from University purchases and jobs created.

STONY BROOK FACULTY NAMED DISTINGUISHED PROFESSORS

Stony Brook faculty Don Ihde and Paul Grannis have been named Distinguished Professors by the State University of New York Board of Trustees. Considered a founder of the philosophy of technology, Ihde has been a Fulbright Fellow and a

Selfridge Fellow. He has written 11 books, including the widely used *Experimental phenomenology*. As leader of the 450-member D-Zero collaboration in physics, Grannis led the successful search for the top quark, a known building block of matter. Grannis conceived the project, and it was his concept for an original experimental approach that achieved the discovery. He has been an Alfred P. Sloan Fellow and is a Fellow of the American Physical Society. Appointment to the rank of Distinguished Professor is conferred on individuals who have achieved national or international prominence within a chosen field.

THE EQUALIZER

It could be an ordinary day in any pool.

Adults draw in their breath at the first, cool touch of wetness on their skin. Babies wearing water wings are gently encouraged to edge a little farther away from the side; older children shriek in delight. A radio is playing in the distance.

For the people splashing in this pool, no day is ordinary. Every day demands a new commitment to courage and endurance that few will ever be called to demonstrate.

Once a week, as many as forty people benefit from a unique program called Adapted Aquatics. All have experienced severe trauma and debilitating illness, resulting in paralysis and crippling disability. Accompanied by family and friends, they arrive at the pool to receive one-on-one physical therapy, at no cost.

Adapted Aquatics is directed by Peter Angelo, professor of physical education and athletics. He is assisted by Charles Stewart, M.D., a specialist in pediatric nephrology and a faculty member in the School of Medicine. The program teaches skills needed to strengthen muscles and improve motor coordination, and provides an evening's recreation. Participants rediscover the ways to walk again, to swim again, to have fun again.

Adapted Aquatics began at the University 29 years ago.

Today it includes undergraduate course credits, for the students who are trained to administer aquatic therapy. Recently the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance selected Stony Brook to produce a training video, for national distribution.

As part of the undergraduates' course work, recitations and lectures follow all pool sessions. Lectures focus on specific disabilities, such as blindness or incapability of movement. Clinical cases are presented, and individual treatment plans are explored by students and professional staff.

Poolside, empty wheelchairs stand forgotten. A hydraulic chair is ready to lower patients carefully into the water. Stony Brook students—having put aside (temporarily, at least) the usual pressures of their own busy schedules—wait in the water, ready to begin the evening's session with gentle encouragement and a compassion that goes beyond words.

The water is the great equalizer, says Angelo. Here it is not easy to distinguish the weak from the strong.

A blind child dives into the pool. A woman begins her slow, painful walk through the water. Suddenly she realizes that she is walking unaided and her face breaks into a smile. In a minute, everyone is laughing.

In the background, the radio plays. Aretha Franklin sings, "There's room for all of us."

The people working the Adapted Aquatics program have known that for a long time.

MURDER AT P-K HOUSE AND OTHER ACTION

Academics aren't the only researchers who find useful material at the Pollock-Krasner House and Study Center. Robert Hughes, host of the BBC's "American Visions" television series that aired recently on PBS, prowls the studio and grounds in his segment on post-WWII American art, and Sister Wendy Beckett discusses our Krasner painting in an episode of her popular series, "Sister Wendy's Story of Art," coming soon to PBS. Camilla T. Crespi used the library to research her latest Simona Griffo mystery, "The Trouble With A Hot Summer," published by Harper Collins. She was so taken with the photography that she featured it

throughout the book, notably as the site where a murder victim's body is discovered. She asked Helen A. Harrison, director of the house and study center, whether she would mind having a "body found on the property." Harrison said no, "the dead are no trouble. It's the living I worry about." Even Hollywood has sent its emissaries, most recently Susan Emschwiller, a screen writer working on a script for the actor Ed (*The Right Stuff*) Harris, who is slated to play Pollock in a forthcoming feature film.★

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FEELING OUR WAY BACK TO LIFE

A modern-day shaman's paean to the planet

The Spell of the Sensuous,
Perception and Language in
a More-Than-Human World
by David Abram, Pantheon 1996

As the crickets' soft autumn hum
is to us
So are we to the trees
as are they
To the rocks and hills

—Gary Snyder

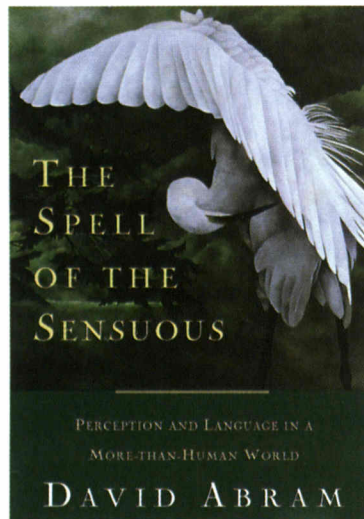
David Abram '93 left as a magician and returned a philosopher. This assertion may not precisely describe the author's stay in Bali, but it is close enough in a world in which what you see is not what you get. Or maybe it is precisely what you get.

A philosopher by profession and a magician by interest, Abram set out to study the animistic cultures of the Indonesian archipelago, where "ancestor worship" is a natural extension of the view that the human organism and the Earth exist in holy reciprocity. Here the body is not a mechanical object but a magical entity. When the body dies and decomposes into dust, it gradually rejoins the living landscape.

Combining philosophy, science and ecology, Abram is a hypnotic sorcerer as he quotes philosopher Merleau-Ponty. "The relations of sentient to sensible are comparable with those of the sleeper to his slumber: Sleep comes when a certain voluntary attitude suddenly receives, from outside, the confirmation for which it was waiting. I am breathing deeply and slowly in order to summon sleep, and suddenly it is as if my mouth were connected to some great lung outside myself, which alternately calls forth and forces back my breath."

Such passages—and the book is filled with them—are disturbing. For if we truly take seriously the symbiosis, synergism, synaesthesia of living body and its environment that Abram conjures so magically—and who could not take them seriously?—then the way we live almost every moment of each day is destructive to the ecological system in which we reside. (Merleau-Ponty's words also have immediate practical applicability. Try this: when you have trouble falling asleep, think of the world as a giant lung taking over your breathing for you. This reviewer guarantees it.)

David Abram's sleight-of-hand book is in no way slight. This is not beach reading, but its reading might be enhanced by the presence of a beach, or any other natural setting. As the author says, "direct sensuous reality, in all its more-than-human mystery, remains the sole solid touchstone for an experiential world now inundated with electronically-generated vistas and engineered pleasures; only in regular contact with



Lannan Literary Award-winning book

the tangible ground and sky can we learn how to orient and to navigate in the multiple dimensions that now claim us."

This book is heavy going, but its spontaneous lyrical quality neutralizes its ponderousness. Its precise yet poetic prose propels us from comfortable chair to window, to examine with new eyes both the smallest and largest elements of our fragile planet. And it is so special that it has two introductions—one personal, and one technical. The author invites us to skip the technical one if we are not acquainted with philosopher Edmund Husserl, or phenomenology, or Merleau-Ponty. But this reviewer defies one to skip anything in a book so beautifully written that its rhythms echo the heartbeat of the Earth.

The Spell of the Sensuous recently won the Lannan Literary Award for Nonfiction, a \$50,000 prize for "writers of distinctive literary merit." This award places Abram in the company of poets Lucille Clifton and Donald Justice, and novelists Howard Norman and William Trevor, who also won the Lannan award.

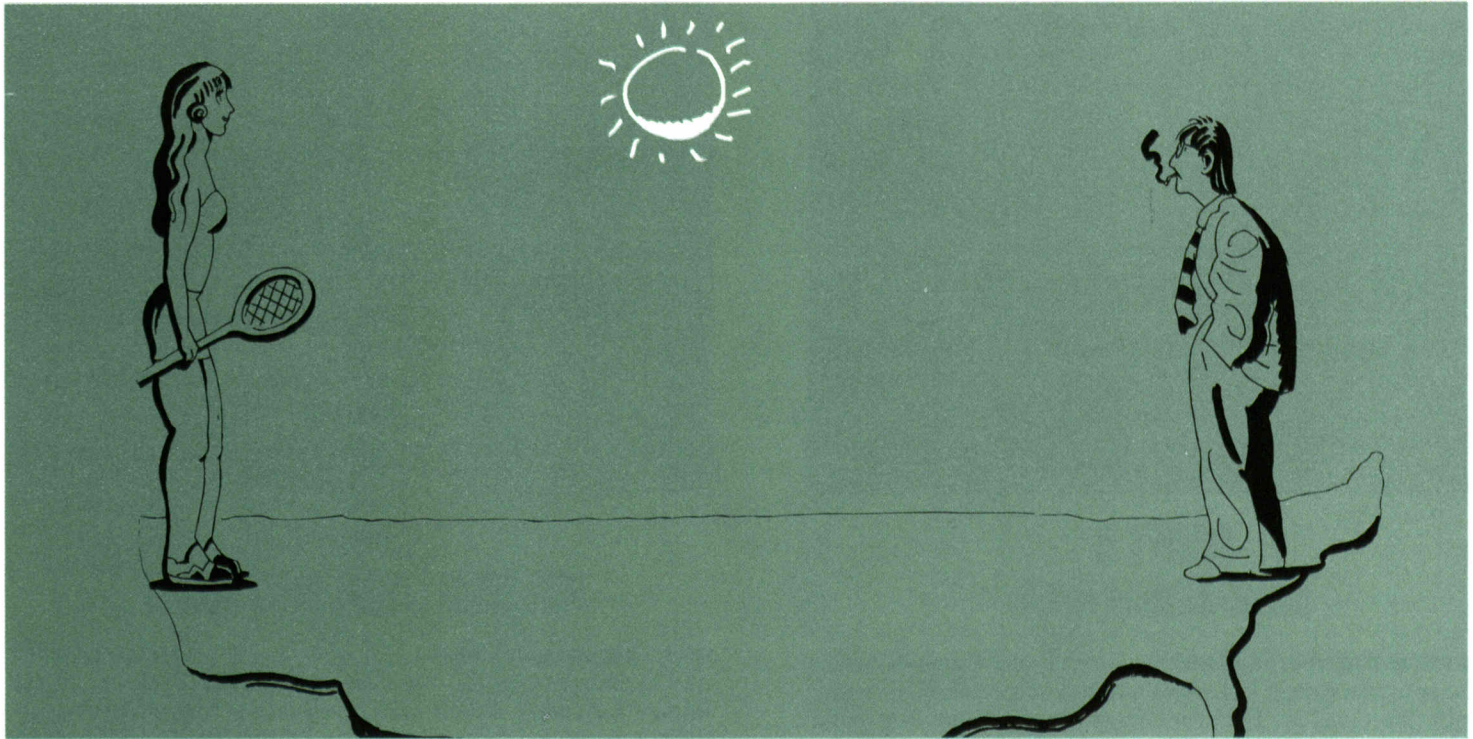
Or it places *them* in Abram's company. *The Utne Reader* last year named him one of 100 "visionaries who could change your life."

His book calls on us to reverse the process whereby civilization has turned in upon itself, isolating us from the breathing Earth. It calls us to reread the awesome little Gary Snyder poem of interconnection, with which the book, and this review, begins.

—Ceil Cleveland



David Abram, a visionary "who could change your life."



Stony Brook: a bridge between art and science, science and research, research and teaching. A bridge between the intellectual and business worlds, the mind and the marketplace. And Stony Brook builds other bridges, too—like bridges from one coast to another.

More Stony Brook alumni have moved to California than any other area of the country. The two states have always maintained a friendly rivalry, proving perhaps that people on both coasts feel a little ambivalent about their choices. To build bridges (or mend fences?) *The Brook* recently talked to alumni who at some point took Horace Greeley's advice.

Edward Rubinstein '73 went West as a young man for "weather and women." Edgar Stroke '84 was drawn by graduate school. Hal Lieberman '72 went prospecting for jobs. How have these expatriates adjusted to life on the left coast?

Appropriately, Lieberman's story reads like a screenplay. He went to California to try his hand at screenwriting. He didn't have a job, and he didn't know anyone in the entertainment

industry. Today Lieberman owns Lieberville Productions, an independent production company housed at Universal Pictures. He says he is "stunned and delighted" at how his life has turned out.

Accustomed to a tougher lingo, Allan Schechter '73 had to adjust to people who speak with smiles in their voices. Californians are "more concerned with how you say something than what you say," he says. A Long Beach health care consultant, Schechter says that Easterners "just want you to get down to what the deal is," and even his kids sometimes remind him to chill. "Not that I'm a raving lunatic," he explains. But Edgar Stroke, a theatrical lighting designer in L.A., thinks New Yorkers, in contrast to Californians, are "honestly friendly, not fake friendly."

Susan Aminoff '69 clings proudly to her "Eastern aggressiveness." A sociology teacher in Santa Monica, she maintains "an awareness of my surroundings that is native to an easterner. I'm constantly perched and hyper-vigilant." She disagrees with those who dismiss California

as a cultural wasteland. "That's a stereotype," she says. "The women I know are attorneys and professors, professionals."

"People say 'Let's do lunch,' but they don't really mean it," adds Barbara Gitlitz '89, an assistant professor of hematology-oncology at UCLA. And Carole Lieberman '68, a media psychiatrist, laments the "commitment-phobic" attitudes she encounters. "You need a boyfriend, you need a girlfriend; as long as someone sort of fills the role, it's okay. It's more of a throwaway society out here. It's less about soul mates, more Ken and Barbie."

But like New York, "there's something here for everyone," says Lisa Robinson-Lorman '80, who, as a public relations executive in L.A., puts an appropriate spin on things. "There's Hollywood, a vibrant art community. The Valley—like suburban Long Island. You can find your niche here." Besides, says Edward Rubinstein, the young man who went West for weather and women, the zaniest Californians seem to come from some place else. "They move to California for a lifestyle that may exist only on television," he says. "A lot of

people believe that the East and Midwest restrain their lives, so they come here and open up a Zen yogurt shop."

All agree that the "other coast" is a healthy choice: smoking is out; swimming, skiing, working out and nontraditional healing are in. Carole Lieberman says she's now open to treatments like acupuncture, guided imagery and aromatherapy—"feel-good, alternative things I would have put down when I lived in New York." And everyone eats well: Lisa Robinson-Lorman's child has a playmate whose family employs a full-time sushi chef.

"I used to miss bagels and good deli," says Burt Shapiro '69, a personal manager in Hollywood. "But we've got these things now."

Still, says psychotherapist Debbie Robinson-Brunston '77 (Robinson-Lorman's sister), "I'll always be an East Coaster at heart. You can't get away from those values of being a little more traditional and conservative, less flashy and trendy. Every time I go to New York, I think, 'What am I doing in California?'"

Just good Karma, maybe. ★

SPLENDID EVENINGS WITH THE STARS



OCTOBER 18 BALDWIN DINNER DANCE

Breast cancer survivor Carol Baldwin has joined Stony Brook in raising funds for breast cancer programs and research at the University through the Carol M. Baldwin Breast Cancer Fund. The Fund held its first event October 18, a "Splendid Evening with the Stars" dinner dance hosted by Carol Baldwin and her children (actor sons Alec, William, Stephen, and Daniel, and daughters Elizabeth and Jane). The family has pledged to help raise at least \$1 million dollars.

Pictured here at a press conference announcing the creation of the Fund are (left to right): Dr. Norman Edelman, Vice President, Health Sciences Center, Dean of the School of Medicine; Carol Baldwin; President Kenny; Alec Baldwin; and University Hospital CEO Michael Maffetone.



DECEMBER 10 PAUL SIMON THEATRE PARTY BENEFIT

Singer-songwriter Paul Simon will stage a benefit performance of his new Broadway musical, *The Capeman*, during previews to raise money for Stony Brook undergraduate scholarships. A pre-theatre reception begins at 6 p.m. December 10 in the Astor Ballroom of the Marriott Marquis Hotel in Manhattan; the 8 p.m. performance starts at the adjacent Marquis Theatre. Tickets are \$500. **For ticket information, call 1-800-807-1787.** *The Capeman* is a genre-breaking musical epic that provides a gritty and powerful portrait of three decades (beginning in the early 1950s) in the life of urban New York. The show features 30 songs, written by Paul Simon with Nobel Laureate Derek Walcott, that encompass Latin sounds, doo-wop, gospel and rock. *The Capeman* brings Simon and Walcott together with acclaimed director-choreographer Mark Morris and Tony Award-winning set designer Bob Crowley. Cast in starring roles are actor and composer Ruben Blades, salsa singing sensation Marc Anthony, and Ednita Nazario, one of Puerto Rico's most admired singers.

Pictured above (left to right) are Ruben Blades, Paul Simon, Ednita Nazario and Marc Anthony.

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