

THE BROOK

TO HELL AND BACK



Dario
Gonzalez
Does
His Job

Editor's Letter

In this issue of *The Brook*, the first since the tragic events of September 11, we profile one of our own: Dario Gonzalez, M.D., class of '79. Dario's breadth of knowledge in the fields of disaster management and bioterrorism was put to the test that horrific day as he rushed to Ground Zero to "do his job." Selected as the country's first full-time Medical Director of the Office of Emergency Management of the City of New York, he is this year's recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award from the School of Medicine. Our story explores the many sides of Dr. Gonzalez and discovers a man full of contradictions, compassion, and courage.

Exhibiting courage of a more personal nature, alum Susan Bonfield Herschkowitz ('77, '79) wrote to let us know that her triumph over her battle with chronic lung disease was about to go public: Susan was chosen to carry the Olympic Torch in Washington D.C. this year and Stony Brook would be there, "supporting you in spirit as you run," wrote President Shirley Strum Kenny to Susan.

Support comes in many forms and from many different sources. Dr. Margot Ammann Durrer first made Stony Brook's acquaintance when she came here for the dedication of the building named after her father, designer of the George Washington Bridge, among others. Dr. Ammann Durrer became a builder of bridges herself by continuing to support Stony Brook University through planned giving and gifts. "There's too much emphasis today on the tax deduction," says Ammann Durrer. "That's not what giving's all about. I remember canvassing for the Red Cross when I was an eighth grader, feeling like I was part of something important. Contributing to Stony Brook still makes me feel that way."

There are many ways you can be a part of Stony Brook University's "support system." Be one of the first alums to join our National Alumni Council (for more information visit our Web site at www.alumni.sunysb.edu). You can share your Stony Brook experiences with high school and transfer students in your area (call Ted Klubinski '73 at (631) 632-9148 or send an e-mail to Theodore.Klubinski@stonybrook.edu to volunteer). Or participate in any of the Stony Brook University alumni-sponsored events and programs that take place throughout the country over the course of the year (see "Alumni Calendar," page 11).

And, of course, we'd love to hear what you're up to, if you have a recollection for our new "Flashback" page, or just want to let us know what you'd like to see more of in future issues of *The Brook*. Write to: *The Brook*, 144 Administration, Stony Brook, NY 11794-0605. Attn: Joanne Morici or e-mail me, Joanne.Morici@stonybrook.edu.

Joanne Morici
Editor

CONTENTS

What's New On Campus 3

Stony Brook Manhattan, Summer Camp at Stony Brook, WUSB Anniversary

Research Roundup 4

Deconstructing *National Geographic*, How We Listen, Curbing Energy Cravings, Better Weather Forecasting

The Disaster Doc 6

Dr. Dario Gonzalez, Medical hero at Ground Zero

Under Their Wing 9

Stony Brook faculty nurture tomorrow's science stars

A Winning Ticket 10

The Stony Brook Film Festival comes of age

Alumni Calendar 11

June to November

Class Notes 12

Alum Spotlight 12

Susan Bonfield Herschkowitz

Donor Spotlight 13

Margot Ammann Durrer

Brookmarks 14

Recent books by Stony Brook alumni, faculty, and staff

Flashback 15

May 1969

Back Cover

Stars of Stony Brook Gala

Compiled by Lynne Vessie

What's New on Campus



After a full day of play, Stony Brook's summer campers are all smiles.

Lister Hewan-Lowe, still a WUSB DJ.

President Kenny flanked (left to right) by Mike Taibbi, James Kallstrom, Stephen Hammerman, Nat Hentoff, Steve Kuhr

Focus on Homeland Security at Stony Brook Manhattan Launch

Declaring "We are not just Americans—we are New Yorkers" in her opening remarks, Stony Brook University President Shirley Strum Kenny recently welcomed more than 100 business leaders, educators, law enforcement personnel, civil rights advocates, and students to the premier event on February 28 at Stony Brook's new Manhattan location, at 28th Street and Park Avenue South.

Defining Stony Brook as "a quintessential New York institution, fueled by the energy of first- and second-generation Americans," President Kenny pledged the University's commitment "to bring something new and special to New York." The facility features seminar and conference rooms, 11 classrooms, and a reception space for special events.

The initial event, a discussion of the effects of the new homeland security measures on civil liberties, featured leading authorities in the fields of security, journalism, human rights, and diplomacy. James Kallstrom, Director of the New York State Office of Public Security and former head of the FBI's New York office, was the keynote speaker. Also on the panel were Steve Kuhr, former Deputy Director of the Mayor's Office of Emergency Management; Stephen Hammerman, New York City's Deputy Police Commissioner for Legal Matters; NBC investigative reporter and war correspondent Mike Taibbi, fresh from assignment in Afghanistan; and nationally syndicated columnist and First Amendment authority Nat Hentoff.

Dr. Harsh Bhasin, Visiting Professor of International Studies at Stony Brook and former Consul General of India to New York and Ambassador of India to South Africa, served as moderator.

After a lively debate, President Kenny concluded the proceedings, saying, "Stony Brook is committed to New York and to helping the City rebuild through one of its most critical resources—education." —Howard Gimble

For more information about lectures, classes, and other programs offered at Stony Brook Manhattan, look on our Web site, www.stonybrook.edu/nyc.

School's Out, Camp's On!

For eight weeks every summer, the Stony Brook campus is transformed into an adventureland for young campers. By combining an educational program with a sports program, kids can choose to design theme parks, explore space travel, create one-act plays, build model boats, then swim, play soccer, tennis, basketball, and touch football, among other activities.

Summer Camp at Stony Brook—about to enter its third season, from June 24 to August 16—is open to children in kindergarten through grade 7. Campers can choose from two-, four-, six-, seven-, or eight-week programs that include a daily program that features three hours of sports activities, three hours of educational activities, lunch and snack. Last summer more than 500 children attended the Summer Camp at Stony Brook.

The camp staff includes certified elementary school teachers, as well as many under-

graduate students, several of whom have used their experiences with campers to clarify their own plans for graduate work. —Lynne Vessie

For more information about the program, call 632-4550 or visit www.stonybrook.edu/daycamp.

WUSB—On the Air for 25 Years Anniversary Celebration, June 28 to 30

Did you know that Stony Brook is home to Long Island's largest non-commercial, free-form radio station? You can tune in to WUSB 90.1 FM and hear sounds ranging from jazz and punk, pop and funk, folk and reggae, to interviews and commentary, drama and sports.

This year, WUSB is celebrating 25 years of FM broadcasting with a weekend full of festivities, including a listener-appreciation barbecue on Saturday, June 29 at the Stony Brook Union from 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. and capping off with a luncheon Sunday afternoon at the Old Field Club in Stony Brook.

WUSB's 24-hour-a-day schedule is made possible by a volunteer staff of more than 160 students, faculty, staff, alumni, and community residents. The staff works behind the scenes as well as on the air—with a variety of nationally syndicated radio programs integrated into the schedule—to produce 168 hours of programming per week. The station is funded by listener donations, the Student Polity Association, the Graduate Student Organization, and local business underwriting grants. —L.V.

For a complete listing of WUSB events, visit the station's Web site at www.wusb.org.

Compiled and written by Shelley Colwell

Research Roundup

Cutting-edge scientific study culled from Stony Brook's best and brightest minds.

Paging Through the Past

When Bill Miller, Department of History, wanted to find a picture of 20th-century culture, he turned to the pages of *National Geographic* Magazine. Professor Miller, who is writing a "biography" of this most beloved of American magazines, feels that the publication, which made its debut nine months after The National Geographic Society was founded on January 27, 1888, offers a window into our nation's changing attitudes and tastes. But Miller takes an unusual angle: His research focuses on how readers' responses helped shape the groundbreaking magazine's content, photographic images, and writing style.



This photo, dog and master in anti-gas gear (1919), and ad "Fish with Anti-Aircraft Gun" (1944) in *National Geographic* reflect the tenor of their times.

"The Society has thousands of letters from readers in its archives, and I have been able to use these to learn what readers wanted and what they liked and disliked about the magazine," says Miller. "Not only do I discover readers' tastes and interests, but I can follow whether editors took them into account by looking at the magazine's content."

Miller's book will follow *National Geographic's* development only up to 1940; by then, its content, style, and format were well established. Chapters will cover the Society's methods of popularizing science; the magazine's treatment of race, gender, and politics; and its presentation of nature and environmental issues.

Until now, *National Geographic* has been the subject of official and semiofficial histories and scholarly studies that pick apart the magazine's racism, imperialism, and sexism, notes Miller. "My contribution will be on the dialectic between editors and readers," he explains, "which, hopefully, will give a more nuanced and complex picture of this cultural icon."

Listening In on the Party Line

Whew! There's still *something* humans do better than computers: listen. "At a cocktail party, we can selectively attend to a single voice, effortlessly filtering out all the others that make up the banter that surrounds us," observes Anthony Zador, an associate professor at Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, with a joint appointment at Stony Brook's Department of Neurobiology and Behavior. "Yet this task remains far beyond the capabilities of our most sophisticated computers."

Our discerning skill led Zador to ponder: "How do the neurons in our brains conspire to form such powerful computational engines?"



He recently put his team to work to find the answer, looking first to lab rats (or more specifically, the auditory processing in the rodent cortex). Through them, Zador hopes to discover the special characteristics of cortical "wetware"—the neurons and synapses that act as both the hardware and software of biological calculation—that let human brains outmaneuver digital ones.

While Zador's research won't make it easier to tune out a bad joke told at your next social gathering, it will ultimately help neuroscientists cut through the chatter to learn more about the inner workings of our minds.

Energizing the Island

Long Islanders hate to be left in the dark. Luckily, Eugene A. Feinberg is shedding some light on how they can beat blackouts—and high energy bills, too.

For the past three years, Feinberg, a professor in the Department of Applied Mathematics and Statistics, and several graduate students in his department, as well as Electrical Engineering professor Thomas Robertazzi, have been developing statistical models and software to assess the electric demand accurately in various parts of Long Island. The goal of his project is to help reduce costs and increase the reliability of the electrical network.

Several variables influence energy use—geographic location, time of the day, day of the week, and population density. "Models that predict energy consumption at the local level is important for two reasons," says Feinberg. "First, the models can guide the capital expenditure decisions by energy providers—showing them where

they should build more lines or add equipment to best service a particular area. And second, the models offer an improved way to predict the general energy-output for Long Island."

Feinberg also studies how weather impacts energy needs.

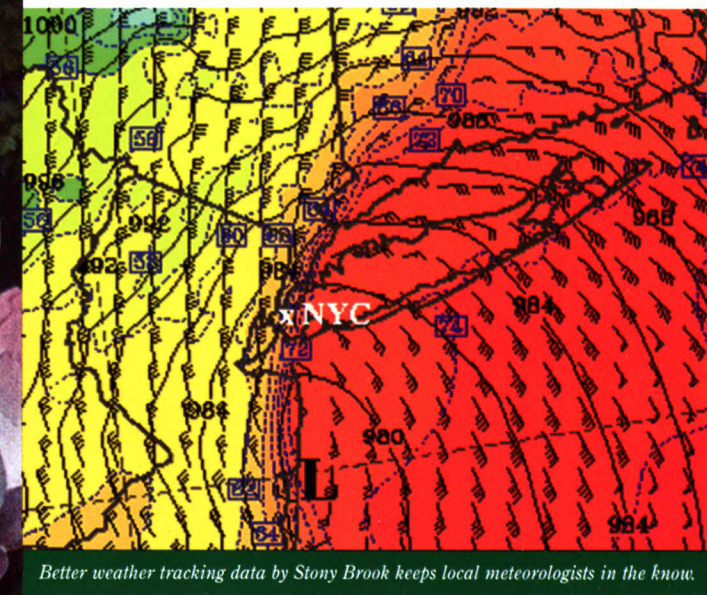
During a heat wave, air conditioners go into overdrive, stressing the resources of local utility companies. "It's critically important for an energy provider to have an understanding of the peak demand so they can attempt to avoid blackouts," Feinberg explains. His models will help pinpoint what areas of the Island would most likely succumb to a blackout before it happens.

Feinberg recently expanded his project to include local weather data from experiments being conducted by Professor Brian Colle in Atmospheric Sciences (see "Weather or Not," below). Using Colle's forecasts, Feinberg can come up with his own short-term predictions that spot trouble up to 60 hours in advance. "If we have a model that shows there is going to be an excessive increase in energy output in a certain area—say we see three 100° days ahead in a land-locked area—the energy provider can view the potential problem and make switching decisions to improve the reliability of the system," Feinberg explains.

So thanks to the work of Stony Brook researchers, no matter how high temperatures climb this summer, Long Islanders can keep their cool.

Weather or Not

If Brian Colle has his way, no one will ever again be caught in the rain without an umbrella. The assistant professor of atmospheric sciences is working to provide meteorologists with the tools they need for



Better weather tracking data by Stony Brook keeps local meteorologists in the know.

more accurate weather forecasts. His first step: giving them a better picture of the East Coast.

Colle accomplishes this by tracking conditions for a large area around Long Island using a state-of-the-art measurement system, the Pennsylvania State University/National Center for Atmospheric Research mesoscale model, known as MM5. The MM5 runs in real time to record numerical data for local phenomena such as the sea breezes, air masses, and humidity levels that all contribute to weather patterns.

Colle has found the MM5 to be helpful in the classroom as well, as his undergraduates help crunch the numbers to make predictions. Colle and his students then send their prognostications to all National Weather Service (NWS) bureaus in the Northeast.

"Our model is one of a few that the National Weather Service uses to make their forecasts," says Colle. "NWS has their own suite of models, but this one, a research-based model, explores new techniques and approaches that haven't been looked at before."

Many of the tristate area's television meteorologists go directly to Colle's Web site, http://atmos.msrb.sunysb.edu/html/alt_mm5.cgi, for data to use in their own daily forecasts. Local weathercasters particularly praise Colle's model for its ability to predict local air flow between land and water, and precipitation amounts. However, Colle admits that the system still "has trouble with timing."

This model's success has catapulted Stony Brook for the first time into the National Weather Forecast Contest, where teams from approximately 30 meteorology departments across the country compete for the most accurate weather forecast for different U.S. cities during 13 two-week periods. According to Colle, Stony Brook is doing very well in the standings, and the students are really enjoying the experience.

Plans are now underway to increase the team's predictions from two to several times a day, so that forecasters will have a better idea of how the atmosphere is evolving. "Our motivation is to have a chance to apply our science more directly to every one in the region," Colle states. "We're excited about the possibilities and what this will mean for Long Island." At the very least, residents will know which way the wind blows.

By Margaret Jaworski

The Disaster Doc

Dario Gonzalez, M.D.

STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE'S 2002 DISTINGUISHED ALUM OPERATES WITH ONE BASIC PRINCIPLE: IN A BAD SITUATION, THERE IS ALWAYS SOMETHING ELSE YOU CAN DO.

September 11, 2001. Around the time life in New York, and the lives of New Yorkers, was about to change forever, Dario Gonzalez, M.D., then Medical Director for Clinical Affairs of the City of New York Fire Department and a member of the Mayor's Bioterrorism Task Force, arrived in Albany for a meeting on disaster preparedness. Within minutes of the initial attack, Gonzalez's beeper went off, and his cell phone rang. An expert in collapsed structure disasters and the Medical Director of Urban Search and Rescue, New York Task Force One, Gonzalez knew one thing: He had to get back to New York, to his men and his turf. Gonzalez and others "commandeered" a State Police helicopter for what seemed like an interminable 25-minute flight to lower Manhattan.

At the George Washington Bridge, an NYPD helicopter escorted the State Police chopper south toward the billowing smoke and

"In disaster management," says Gonzalez, "part of surviving the experience is just showing up and doing your job."

the dust cloud already visible for miles. "The chopper dropped us on West Street just as the second tower collapsed," says Gonzalez, 55, a stocky man you'd be more likely to peg as a TV cop than NYC's top disaster doc. Gonzalez leapt out and ran towards the dust and debris. He remembers thinking that he didn't have his boots or helmet with him. He remembers thinking it was bad. He remembers thinking the D-

Morts, the Disaster Mortuary Team, should be on the scene.

While Gonzalez set up his command, his wife Pearl watched the horrific scene from their home on City Island. "I knew that somehow Dario had gotten back to New York," she says. She believed he was safe—but seven hours passed before she heard her husband's voice reassuring her he was alive and well.

He didn't tell her he was only one of three city Search and Rescue Team Leaders who survived that day.

To Hell and Back

Gonzalez camped out with rescue workers in tents dotting a sports field near the place the press dubbed Ground Zero and the rescue workers called "the pile." Lights from the emergency generators lit the tents day and night while rats forced out of their subterranean homes ran rampant. The first night the FAA cleared commercial flights over the city, "we heard a plane flying overhead," says Gonzalez, "we bolted out of the tents looking up, not knowing what intentions filled that plane up in the sky."

For the first 10 days of what would turn out to be a three-week

stint, Gonzalez stayed at the pile ministering to firefighters and on one occasion, stitching up the injured paw of a rescue dog. After a turn at the pile, firefighters showed up at the tent coughing up blood, eyes tearing and throats raw from the toxic combination of smoke, fumes, and debris suspended in the air.

One morning Gonzalez climbed into a man cage, hoisted by crane, to the pinnacle of the pile. Up there, atop the 220-story mountain of shredded steel and contorted concrete, he understood the vastness of the destruction. The heat rising from fires burning in the bowels of the rubble was intense, he says. In the midst of the mayhem, black humor prevailed. He told a firefighter that the soles of his shoes were melting. "That's OK doc," the firefighter quipped. "As long as your feet aren't melting too."

A pragmatist at heart, Gonzalez allowed himself the luxury of denial. "Thousands of people were missing and we all kept scratching our heads wondering, 'Where are they? Where are they hidden?'" In a building collapse situation, he explains, you survive by avoiding open spaces. In the beginning, the hope that survivors would be found in crawl spaces formed by the debris clung to the rescuers like sweat. "It's OK to lie to yourself. It's OK to have hope," Gonzalez says. "We do it all the time."

After days of crawling over the razor-sharp pieces of metal and the contorted steel that veneer of denial began to peel away like a bad paint job. "We weren't going to find anyone alive," he says, his voice betraying the anguish buried beneath his emotional armor. "We weren't going to find intact bodies."

In disaster management, says Gonzalez, "part of surviving the experience is just showing up and doing your job."

Dario Gonzalez is, by all accounts, a man skilled at doing his job. A private man in public service, he shuns cameras and limelight. "I like to stay in the background. I don't need to be a talking head," he says. On camera or off, Gonzalez doesn't much like talking about himself and resists any conversation that resembles self-congratulation. "Dario is a very quiet person who needs his own time and space to process his feelings," says his wife, Pearl, a psychotherapist and the Program Director of the Detox Unit at Sound Shore Hospital in New Rochelle. In his world, acts of kindness need no recognition and acts of courage are commonplace. "Even the people I treat in the field rarely know who I am," he says.

"Dario races towards situations that would have other physicians running away," says Charles Martinez, Deputy Chief Surgeon, New York City Police Department, who worked with Gonzalez at Ground Zero. "He can be abrupt and in your face at times...but that is Dario and that is how difficult things get done..."

"He has no patience for incompetence. He's tough and practical," says EMS Captain James Booth, a friend of 12 years who trained in Emergency Services under Gonzalez. "He climbs into the fray with you. He crawls through the wreckage." Booth and Gonzalez have weathered two of the country's most devastating terrorist acts. In the wreckage of Oklahoma City and the World Trade Center, Gonzalez saw the worst and hoped for the best. "I bet he didn't tell you that when he left the pile to go home to get a change of clothes, he stopped to visit my family. He didn't volunteer that, did he?"

Gonzalez doesn't volunteer much. He reluctantly admits that

Dario Gonzalez confers with a fellow rescue worker at Ground Zero.



friends of his died that September day. "I lost some people," he says quietly, "Friends who watched your back, who took care of you."

Inner calm and grace under pressure are character traits mandatory in emergency medicine and disaster management. The man now charged with restoring calm in a disaster situation admits he wasn't always that coolheaded. "As a kid I had a hair-trigger temper and a lot of anger," he says.

A Bronx Tale

Dario Gonzalez was born at home in the South Bronx in 1946. Freakish fall weather prevented his mother from officially registering his birth until September 24. Aside from the fact that the imprecision prevents him from having a proper astrological chart done, he says, this fuzziness does not trouble him at all.

The South Bronx in the '50s and '60s was a different kind of disaster, says Gonzalez. The second of three children born to Puerto Rican immigrants, Gonzalez, his younger brother, and some cousins created their own gang as protection from the gangs moving into the area. At 15 he stabbed a boy in the hand with a No. 2 pencil. He says he went hunting for a butcher knife but his mother stopped him from using it. Another time he kneecapped a kid with a baseball bat.

His troubled youth didn't derail him. "He's an amazing man," says his wife, Pearl. "[Growing up in that world] he could have gotten involved in the drug scene." He didn't. He graduated from DeWitt Clinton High School in the Bronx a few days after receiving his army draft notification. Scheduled to report for basic training in August of 1964, he decided to enlist in the Navy instead. The day he reported for duty, he was arrested and thrown in the brig. "The Army considered me AWOL," says Gonzalez who chose a six-year stretch at sea over jail time. He spent those

years in a succession of submarines patrolling the waters off Vietnam. In the Navy he learned a valuable lesson: No matter how crazy things get, order will prevail.

Returning home Gonzalez enrolled at Bronx Community College. Two years later he transferred to Columbia College, graduating with a B.A. in Math. Somebody, he doesn't remember who, suggested he try medical school. "I thought, 'why not?'" he says.

He chose Stony Brook University for several reasons. The diversity of the student population attracted him. "They had black and minority students there," he says. And the school offered him a good financial-aid package. The curriculum was tough, the education strict, he says. He thrived.

Early on, he discovered his natural affinity for hands-on medicine. "I was really good with patients. I could talk to them, insert an IV, and take blood. Emergency medicine provided him with the opportunity to practice that art. He graduated from Stony Brook in 1979 and continued his studies at Jacobi Hospital in the Bronx where he interned in emergency medicine. In 1985, he was named Physician in Charge of Emergency Services at Queens Hospital Center in Jamaica. Four years later, he became its Chief of the Department of Emergency Medicine. In 1993, he joined the New York City Emergency Medical Services as the Associate Medical Director and the Medical Director of Training. "I was probably the only doctor to take a pay cut to join EMS," he quips.

That same year he and Pearl married. She first noticed him dash-

ing around the halls of Jacobi Hospital where she was studying social work. "I was interested right away," she says. "There was something about him." The quiet man admits that he, too, was immediately smitten with the petite, attractive, vivacious divorced mother of two.

The couple now lives in a turn-of-the-century house on a quiet street on City Island with their two Pekinese dogs, Ernie and Emily. Pearl's kids and their children are frequent and welcome visitors. "My four-year-old granddaughter just loves her 'Poppi'" says Pearl.

The decor of the house isn't what you'd expect; Gonzalez is a romantic. He loves all things Victorian, but also collects Art Deco posters, vintage radios and records—33s and 78s—mostly music of the '40s and '50s. Period pieces adorn every available space. Upstairs in the master bedroom Gonzalez displays some of his most treasured possessions—an April 1946 Vargas girl lithograph, a poster of a young Marilyn Monroe, and two Fritz Lang posters from the movie *Metropolis*.

Aside from one empty package of atropine, an anti-nerve agent used in World War I, nothing in this oversized dollhouse hints at the profession of the man who lives in it...until you reach Dario's private hideaway, two rooms in the attic accessible via a staircase hidden behind a faux bookcase. Gonzalez built the entry himself.

The front room is "a mess." A display case hung on the wall is filled with Samurai swords. Another case houses his collection of Asian figurines. A computer covered with papers sits next to a stereo. Papers and books are piled everywhere, dealing with subjects such as bioterrorism, agents of mass destruction, anthrax, smallpox, radiation, and disaster management, the daily stuff of Dario Gonzalez's other life.

His segue from Dario Gonzalez, M.D. to Dario Gonzalez, international expert on bioterrorism, the country's first full-time Medical Director of the Office of Emergency Management of the City of New York, didn't "follow a straight path," he says. It happened partly because he's always up for a challenge and partly because he gets "easily bored." He's also an adrenalin junkie, he admits. He craves the sensation of testing his mettle.

The man who won't ski and can't think of anything more unpleasant than climbing Mt. Everest (he hates the cold), lights up while describing the thrill of descending an elevator shaft tethered to a cable to treat victims of an elevator accident. He says he's "always scared" and in the same breath shrugs off any reservations about investigating each and every suspected and confirmed case of anthrax in New York City and Washington, D.C. And, while he didn't get an anthrax vaccine or stock up on Cipro, the antibiotic of choice, he admits the country was unprepared to handle the few cases that did occur. "A scare like that can shut down a medical system very quickly," he says candidly.

Sometime in November, he moved into his current position at the Office of Emergency Management. His beeper and cell phone are attached to him like his bushy mustache. He's on call 24/7. In between emergency calls, he lectures on bioterrorism and teaches once a week at Long Island Jewish Medical Center where he is an Emergency Department Attending Physician. He's also Clinical Professor of Emergency Medicine at Albert Einstein College of Medicine.

Recently he gave a lecture at Stony Brook's Health Sciences Center on biological agents of mass destruction. This pragmatist turned poetic when describing microbes and viruses. "A pretty agent" is the way he described one nasty germ. He also talked of sunset on a beautiful summer's day, the perfect scenario for the release of another biological agent.

Dario Gonzalez operates with one basic principle: In a bad situation, there is always something else you can do. Dario Gonzalez doesn't miss the irony of his life path: a man who grew up in one disaster zone now dedicates his life to restoring order and bringing healing to disasters of a different kind. "I made a *promessa*," he says. "It's a Spanish word that is hard to translate. It means you promise to do something in a certain way. It's a kind of payback for all the opportunities I've been given."

In the wreckage of Oklahoma City and the World Trade Center, Gonzalez saw the worst and hoped for the best.

involved in the drug scene." He didn't. He graduated from DeWitt Clinton High School in the Bronx a few days after receiving his army draft notification. Scheduled to report for basic training in August of 1964, he decided to enlist in the Navy instead. The day he reported for duty, he was arrested and thrown in the brig. "The Army considered me AWOL," says Gonzalez who chose a six-year stretch at sea over jail time. He spent those

By Toby Speed

Under Their Wing

STONY BROOK'S TOP RESEARCHERS SHARE THEIR LABS AND EXPERTISE WITH LONG ISLAND'S YOUNG AND CURIOUS TO FOSTER A LIFELONG LOVE OF SCIENCE.

If you ask Miriam Rafailovich, professor in the department of Materials Science and Engineering, why she likes to work with high school students, she says it's because they're fun. "You feel lucky to work with them," she says.

Fun is part of a formula that has paid off for high school students doing research here in the past year with Dr. Rafailovich, who is also director of the Garcia Center for Polymers at Engineered Interfaces, a seven-week summer scholar program sponsored by the National Science Foundation, and other dedicated Stony Brook faculty and staff mentors. This year two high school researchers were co-winners in the Siemens Westinghouse Science and Technology Competition, and of the 22 students on campus who were semifinalists in the 2002 Intel Science Competition, two went on to become finalists. It is no accident that Stony Brook now produces about half of Long Island's Intel semifinalists. With the devoted mentoring of faculty, Stony Brook's high school students—who arrive on campus with a lot of curiosity and only the barest bones experience—discover they have the inner resources and perseverance that not only spell success but also awaken them to a lifelong love of science.

"Kids take over in Dr. Rafailovich's lab," says Vinitha Jacob from Hicksville Senior High School, who worked on developing a new method of separating DNA molecules for her Intel project and was named a semifinalist this year. "My friends who were doing research with her before I started told me how great the atmosphere was and how everyone shared in the work. And they were right."

Vinitha is one of four recent Intel semifinalists mentored by Dr. Rafailovich. Mordechai Bronner, a student at Rambam Mesivta High School in Lawrence, went on to become a finalist in the prestigious national competition. His winning project involved working with polymers to solve the problem of tire tread separation.

"Quite frankly, I never worked so hard in my life," admits Mordechai, who began his research at Stony Brook as a Simons Fellow. "I wrote two articles for scientific journals, got a patent, gave a talk at the Material Research Society, and will make presentations at the American Chemical Society and American Physical Society soon—all with Dr. Rafailovich's help."

Vinitha agrees. "She treats us like adults. She doesn't just give us the steps to go through for our research. When I ask her questions, she explains everything to me and makes sure I understand."

In addition to the Intel winners, students Shira Billet and Dora Sosnowik, who attend the Stella K. Abram High School for Girls in Hewlett Bay Park, placed first in the team category of the 2001 Siemens Westinghouse competition for their viscometer for ultra thin films. They also work in Dr. Rafailovich's lab. Students in other labs have placed highly in competitions such as the Long Island Science and Engineering Fair and the International Science and Engineering Fair. But mentors and students alike stress that research is not about competitions—it's about discovering the excitement of science.



Professor Miriam Rafailovich shares her lab and love of research with high-school students.

"High school students have no biases," says Dr. Rafailovich. "When they first come here, they don't know anything [about research]. Once they learn the culture of research, the light bulb goes on."

Yang Li, a senior from Ward Melville High School, has been working with Dr. Benjamin Luft in the Department of Medicine for the past three years. Yang became an Intel finalist after conducting original research on proteins that may protect against Lyme disease. "Yang is not afraid to try new things," says Dr. Luft. "One day he was asked to do a routine task in the lab, and he found something unique in the reaction that he wanted to pursue. It was exciting—you could see him going down a road with many forks."

Yang agrees. "Dr. Luft was very encouraging. He discussed my research with me and helped me write my paper as if I were presenting it to Lyme disease experts. It's been an honor to work with him."

The Laser Teaching Center in the basement of the Physics Building gives students who are fascinated by lasers and optics a chance to learn by working on projects of their own choice—rather than on faculty-driven research. The Center hosts about 50 student researchers in the course of a year; many are high school students. Founded by Distinguished Teaching Professor Harold Metcalf of the department of Physics and Astronomy, the Center is enthusiastically directed by his colleague, Dr. John Noé.

"Almost anyone can get hooked on science if you give them enough time," says Dr. Noé. "It takes a very individual, one-on-one involvement. And, for the students, it's not so much about innate intelligence as it is about persistence. The ones who do best are those who are motivated from within."

Peter Amendola, a Kings Park High School student who is a Simons Fellow and an Intel semifinalist, tells of his beginnings in the lab.

"Professor Metcalf interviewed me, and he was really cool," says Peter. "Dr. Noé got me started on my laser project. He was as excited about it as I was. He taught me HTML, made graphs with me, and spent lots of time with me." Peter adds, "When I first got here, I didn't know anyone. The other students were already two weeks into their projects. But Dr. Noé took us all out to lunch, and after that we were friends."

Molly Bright, a student at Bayport-Blue Point High School, admits to feeling awkward when she first arrived at Stony Brook. "I didn't know how to make up the steps for doing research," she says. "My only experience with research before this was in a basement with no windows, and a lot of it was boring." Molly's project in the Laser Teaching Center, begun when she was a Simons Fellow, also led to her being named an Intel semifinalist this year.

Describing the nurturing nature of the mentor-student relationship, John Noé says simply, "If you can find someone who is excited about science and watch him or her grow, that's the best reward." It's a reward that's shared by mentors and students alike.

By Howard Gimple

A Winning Ticket

From humble beginnings, Stony Brook's Film Festival—now in its seventh year—has become a premier showcase for independent filmmakers.

2002 Stony Brook Film Festival July 17 to 27

Wednesday, July 17

8:30 p.m.

The Grey Zone, a deeply moving Holocaust film written and directed by Tim Blake Nelson. It stars David Arquette, Daniel Benzali, Steve Buscemi, Harvey Keitel, and Mira Sorvino.



Almost Salinas

Thursday, July 18

7:00 p.m.

In *The Secret*, the Dobrovich family's secrets drive each other crazy. Great Aunt Daria upsets the balance to comedic effect.

9:15 p.m.

The Weight of Water is an historical murder mystery starring Elizabeth Hurley and Sean Penn.

Friday, July 19

7:00 p.m.

In *Mergers and Acquisitions* an underachieving man is stuck in a job at a family-owned magazine about to be bought by its rival.

9:30 p.m.

In *Don't Let Go*, the scorching Texas heat and musical score serves as a backdrop for a story about two musician brothers.

Saturday, July 20

7:00 p.m.

In *The Bread, My Sweet* Scott Baio stars as Dominic Pyzola, a man leading a double life as a

caring manager of a biscotti company and a hotshot exec.

9:30 p.m.

In *Almost Salinas*, a B-movie crew takes over Cholame, California, home to a James Dean memorial, to the chagrin of the locals. John Mahoney and Lindsey Crouse star.

Sunday, July 21

5:00 p.m.

Award-winning documentary, *Daughter from Danang* chronicles the story of Heidi Bub and her journey from Vietnam to Tennessee and back again.

7:00 p.m.

The Rising Place tells the story of Emily Hodge's struggles as an unwed mother during World War II. Cast includes Laurel Hollow, Gary Cole, Frances Fisher, Tess Harper, and Frances Sternhagen.



Looking for Leonard

9:30 p.m.

In *Dischord*, alternative rock violin star Gypsy disappears in the middle of a national tour.

Monday, July 22

7:00 p.m.

Returning Mickey Stern is a comedy about a man, Mickey Stern (Joseph Bologna), trying to right past wrongs with only one week to do it.

9:20 p.m.

Italian for Beginners is a comedy about an Italian language class that brings together a disparate group of thirty-something loners.



Karmen Gei

Tuesday, July 23

7:00 p.m.

Bark is the charming, offbeat tale of Lucy, a professional pet sitter who has abandoned all human forms of communication.

9:30 p.m.

Dinner and a Movie is a romantic comedy about a woman's dream of making a documentary on Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn and ends up creating a reality show.

Wednesday, July 24

7:00 p.m.

Son of the Bride is about a stressed-out restaurant worker, Rafael, who cares for his ailing mother, battles his ex-wife, and receives an offer to purchase the struggling family restaurant.

9:40 p.m.

American Saint is a comedic docudrama about an aspiring young actor in New York City and his attempts to transform himself into Jack Kerouac.

Thursday, July 25

7:00 p.m.

In *Looking for Leonard* the lives

of three robbers intersect with a computer programmer.

9:20 p.m.

Ordinary Sinner is a tale of friendship, love, and betrayal and how religion supports and condemns violence against gays.

Friday, July 26

7:00 p.m.

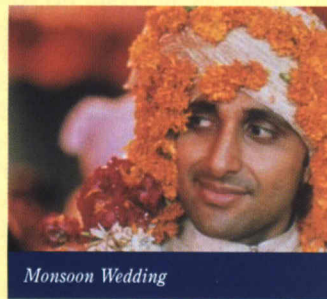
Karmen Gei retells the Carmen myth in contemporary Senegal.

8:40 p.m.

The Jimmy Show is about a downtrodden character trying his hand at stand-up comedy only to create stand-up tragedy.

10:40 p.m.

Who embezzled \$5 million from *The Blue Lizard* lounge? Stony Brook alum Fred Carpenter writes, directs, and stars.



Monsoon Wedding

Saturday, July 27

7:00 p.m.

In *Monsoon Wedding*, sparks fly and comedy ensues when far-flung family members gather at a traditional Punjabi wedding in contemporary India.

9:15 p.m.

In *Pursuit of Happiness*, a romantic comedy with an edge, a fed-up ad executive with a history of failed relationships finds true love with an old friend.

Alumni Calendar

What started out as a Steven Spielberg retrospective is now one of the East Coast's most important film festivals and Long Island's foremost independent film showcase. This year the Stony Brook Film Festival will feature 11 days of non-stop cinema. Subscribers will be able to view as many as 50 premiere films, both features and shorts, from major distributors and the best independent producers. On the final day, they can vote for their favorites. The winners will be announced at a gala closing night party hosted by *The Village Voice*.

This year's festival, which runs from July 17 to July 27, is a far cry from its meager beginnings in 1994, when the Staller Center was still recovering from a flood that devastated the building a year earlier. A new 40-foot movie screen had recently been installed and Staller Center Director Alan Inkles was eager to take advantage of the Center's new cinematic capabilities.

"We decided to do a summer series of Spielberg films," recalled Inkles, "then we found out that no showable prints of *E.T.* or *Jaws* existed."

He soon discovered that 35 millimeter prints of older movies were difficult to obtain. Undeterred, Inkles decided to continue to show classic films and was able to entice some big-name Hollywood stars to attend the screenings. Cliff Robertson was on hand for *Charly*, Rod Steiger came to Stony Brook to view *The Pawnbroker*, and Patricia Neal was Inkles' guest for *A Face in the Crowd*.

"Patricia Neal sat in the theatre, held my hand, and cried during the entire movie," Inkles said. "She hadn't seen the film on a big screen in more than 30 years and it was a tremendous experience. Then, during the last minute, the film ripped. We managed to splice together the final few seconds, then told the audience, 'you are the last people who will ever see this film on a big screen.'"

After that experience, Inkles decided to phase out classic films and focus on independent features and shorts. The idea for what is now the Stony Brook Film Festival was born.

"We went to several of the major festivals—Cannes, Sundance, Toronto—met with a lot of filmmakers, talked with a lot of directors, and over the last three years we've created what I'm very proud of—a viable player in the market of film festivals."

What started out as a fun summer event became a year-long labor of love for Inkles and his staff. "We've created a wonderful monster," said Inkles. "It's taken over our lives but we love it."

Every year Inkles and his staff scour through more than 500 unknown films to find the 30 or 40 hidden gems. "Our goal is to show the best independent films that are out there, in competition, and have some studio premieres," Inkles said.

The Stony Brook Film Festival has now gained credibility with both the Three Village community and the movie industry.

"We're finally at a place where some of the better distributors and filmmakers know who we are, love our venue, and want us to show their films. We still have to work hard to get the great films, but it's not as much of a struggle," said Inkles. "Last year we had five bona fide premieres, a few years ago we'd be lucky to get one."

The Stony Brook Film Festival gives film lovers a chance to see some very special movies in an ideal theatrical environment. Stony Brook alumni will receive special subscription discounts. For more information, visit www.stonybrookfilmfestival.com.

June

13, Thursday, 4:00 p.m.

Leo M. Sreebny Visiting Scholar Award Ceremony

School of Dental Medicine

For information, contact Kathryn Younger at (631) 632-8807

22, Saturday, 9:00 a.m.

Alumni Association Annual Board Meeting

Alliance Room, Melville Library

For more information contact the Alumni Relations Office at 1-877-SEAWOLF

27, Thursday

School of Nursing Alumni Reception

Stony Brook Manhattan, 401 Park Avenue South, at 28th St.

For more information, contact Nancy Susser at (631) 444-3549

28 to 30, Friday to Sunday

WUSB-FM 25th

Anniversary Celebration

For more information, contact Norm Prusslin at (631) 632-6820

July

1, Monday

The Hardwood Golf Outing

St. Georges Golf and Country Club

For more information contact the Department of Athletics at (631) 632-9556

26 to 28, Friday to Sunday

1970s Alumni Reunion Weekend

Organized by Ruben Gonzalez and Juan Mestas. For information contact the Alumni Relations Office at 1-877-SEAWOLF

29, Monday, 8:00 a.m.

Charles Gordon Heuser Memorial Golf Classic presented by Coca Cola

Port Jefferson Country Club

For more information, contact the Department of Athletics at (631) 632-9556

August

10, Saturday, 12:00 p.m.

Stony Brook University Alumni Day at the Races

Saratoga, NY

For more information, contact the Alumni Relations Office at 1-877-SEAWOLF

September

4, Wednesday, 7:10 p.m.

Mets Game and Alumni Reception

Mets vs. Florida Marlins. Tickets only \$6. For more information, call Rich McNally '72 at (718) 359-8477. Shea Stadium

9, Monday

8th Annual Research Classic Golf Tournament

Port Jefferson Country Club

For more information, contact the Medical School Advancement Office at (631) 444-2899

14, Saturday

Stony Brook University Athletics Stadium Opening and Football Game, Seawolves vs. St. John's

For more information, contact the Alumni Relations Office at 1-877-SEAWOLF

27 Friday

Baltimore Orioles Game and Alumni Reception

Oriole Park at Camden Yards, Baltimore, Maryland.

For more information, contact the Alumni Relations Office at 1-877-SEAWOLF

October

18, Friday, 12:00 p.m.

The School of Health Technology and Management's Ninth Annual Distinguished Alumni Lecture Series and Awards Presentation

For more information, call Traci Thompson at (631) 444-2407 Health Sciences Center

19, Saturday, 12:00 p.m.

Alumni Homecoming Celebration

Stony Brook University

For more information, contact the Alumni Relations Office at 1-877-SEAWOLF

November

21, Thursday, 6:30 p.m.

Distinguished Alumni Awards Dinner

The Vanderbilt, Plainview

For more information, contact the Alumni Relations Office at 1-877-SEAWOLF

SAVE THE DATES

Stony Brook University Homecoming
October 18 to 20, 2002

Class Notes

1960s

After four years as Dean of Sciences and Math at Richard Strachton College, **Lynn F. Stiles** (B.S. '64) went back to his real love—research and teaching.

Sheila (Haak) Petrocelli (B.S. '67) is a Nuclear Emergency Preparedness instructor for the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency.

Gina Schachter Anderson (B.A. '68) is a corporate lawyer specializing in art law at Proskaver Rose Goetz and Mendelsohn NYC.

Lawrence I. Green (B.E. '69) is married to **Laura (Leventhal) Green** (B.A. '69). They have relocated to the Salt Lake City area. Larry is now Industrial Product Manager for a laser beam diagnostic company, and Laura is a manager of security at the Little America Hotel.

Laurence M. Rose (B.A. '69) has been elected an Academic Fellow by The International Society of Barristers. Rose is a professor and Director of the Litigation Skills Program at UM Law.

1970s

Gail Roseman (B.A. '71) has been honored by the Queens Child Guidance Center with the Sonia Stum Humanitarian Award. She is partner and executive vice president of Sholom & Zuckerbrot Realty in Long Island City.

Howard E. Strassler (B.S. '71) was honored with the Academy of General Dentistry's highest award, the Weclaw Fellowship. Strassler was teacher of the year for 2001 at the University of Maryland Dental School.

Richard K. Larsen (B.S. '72) is a senior geologist in Salt Lake City for Battle Mountain Gold Company.

Philip N. Sussman (B.S. '72) joined Perlegen as Vice President of Business Development. Sussman is a member of the Review Panel for the Innovative Technology Research Grant Program, Center for Biotechnology, New York State Science and Technology Foundation.

Kenneth L. Feder (B.A. '73), an anthropology professor at Central Connecticut State University, recently had his book, *Fraud, Myths, and Mysteries*, included among the top 30 on the Skeptics Society Book List.

Palm Beach County Circuit Judge **Kenneth Marra** (B.A. '73) was one of 24 judicial nominees for slots nationwide whose names were forwarded by President Bush to Capitol Hill. The President has picked Marra to fill a newly created judgeship for the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida.

The Goudreau Museum of Mathematics in Art and Science in New Hyde Park has given its Educational Leadership Award to **Ann Razzano** (M.A.L. '73), Mathematics Director of Deer Park Schools, for her career accomplishments.

Veerabhadran Ramanathan (Ph.D. '74), professor of atmospheric sciences at the Scripps Institute of Oceanography in California, has won

the American Meteorological Society's 2002 Carl-Gustaf Rossby Research Medal.

Stephen Rappaport (B.A. '74) founded Build Capacity, a firm dedicated to improving the operational efficiency and program services quality and effectiveness of nonprofits through Web-based solutions.

John L. Hennessy (M.S. '75, Ph.D. '77) was named President of Stanford University in April 2000. Prior to being named President, Hennessy had been Provost.

Anita Santiago (M.A. '75) heads "one of the few advertising agencies mainstream companies turn to for reaching Latinos." Santiago writes fiction and has published short stories in several anthologies.

Carlee R. Drummer (M.A. '76) is the Director of College Relations and Marketing at Oakton Community College.

Heather Gabson (M.A.L. '76) is a first-grade teacher in Boca Raton, FL, and has earned her National Board Certification.

Christine Krause (B.A. '76) has been awarded an Outstanding Teacher Fellowship by the Foundation for International Education at Barnard College, inviting her to join a teacher seminar at Oxford University, England, in July.

Jim Sullivan (B.A. '77) joined ThinkFree as Executive Vice President of Worldwide Marketing and Sales. Sullivan's experience includes a long tenure at Novell.

Joy Behar (M.A.L. '78), the comic and co-host of the ABC morning show *The View*, has written about the time she spent on Long Island in her book *Joy Shtick*.

Symbol Technologies announced the promotion of Senior Vice President and General Manager **Richard Bravman** (B.S. '78) to President and Chief Operating Officer.

On behalf of the 26 lawyers who perished on September 11, New York State Bar Association President **Steven C. Krane** (B.A. '78) accepted the Medal of the Barcelona Bar Association.

Francis Olsen (DDS '78) was named "Distinguished Alumnus" for the John Jay College of Criminal Justice-CUNY Class of '74. Olsen was also promoted to Senior Vice President of Product Management for HIP Health Plan of Greater New York.

Wayne J. Schaefer (B.A. '79) received a Juris Doctor from the University of Miami in 1985. He is now a partner in the Labor Group.

1980s

Embrace Networks, a provider of server-based application development platforms, named **Klaus Hofman** (B.A. '80) Vice President of Sales.

Matthew Aboulafia (B.A. '82) is a successful litigation attorney interested in being contacted by old Stony Brook friends.

EYP Mission Critical Facilities, Inc. promoted **Roy H. Feinzig** (B.E. '82), P.E. to Principal. Feinzig serves as EYP MCF's Mechanical Commissioning Group Manager.

Alum Spotlight By Joan Dickinson

Torch Song Victory

Susan Bonfield Herschkowitz

B.A., Social Sciences '77, M.A., Public Affairs '79

Completing the steep uphill run of the Olympic torch relay was more than just an athletic challenge for Susan Bonfield Herschkowitz; it was a living metaphor of the struggles in her life. "For me, carrying the torch represents the joyous celebration of life, and it symbolized hope for individuals battling misfortune and desperate circumstances."

Struck with a life-threatening lung disease, Susan overcame all odds to fully reclaim her health. She credits natural and alternative medicine with saving her life. Her 14-year battle with lung disease, which began in 1986, had progressed to a point where Susan could barely walk across the room. Susan was introduced to chiropractic care called DNFT, (directional non-force technique). After achieving some success with the method, she explored acupuncture to compliment the chiropractic care. The partnership of aggressive treatments, along with message therapy, brought Susan's body back to a healthy state. Then in 1999 Susan suffered another serious setback during which she was comatose, paralyzed, and on a respirator. Through sheer will and determination, Susan was released from the hospital shortly thereafter, but she struggled daily with a barrage of medications and eventually was forced to leave her job and abandon any personal activities. She again credits her long-term use of natural medicine for her recovery. "I am living proof that optimism and determination can defeat adversity," Susan says.

Susan has since then testified before the White House Commission on Complementary and Alternative Medicine Policy, giving a powerful case for support. She has rebuilt her life and, as an Olympic torchbearer, embodies the spirit and determination mirrored in the athletes.

To read more about Susan's personal and powerful journey back to health, visit her web site at www.susanrunstheorch.com.



PHOTO: SALT LAKE OLYMPIC COMMITTEE

David Goodman (B.A. '82) and **Marc Stern** (M.A. '72, Ph.D. '86) are making a name for themselves in alternative talk radio. Their show "Radio With a View" airs on Tuesday on WMBR-FM.

Scion Pharmaceuticals Inc. appointed **Phillip Friden** (Ph.D. '83) Vice President of Biology.

John M. Dettori Jr. (B.S. '83) has become a classic car collector/restorer specializing in the Ford Mustang. He is a Senior Executive for KPMG Consulting Financial Services Practice.

National Scientific Corporation named **Michael A. Grollman** (B.S. '84) Chief Executive Officer. Grollman will also continue as NSC's President.

Sean Levchuck (B.A. '84) is a pediatric cardiologist at St. Francis Hospital in Roslyn. Levchuck has been the administrator of the Gift of Life Program at St. Francis since 1996.

David Gamberg (B.A. '85) is the new principal of Medford Elementary School.

Steven M. Kahn (B.A. '85) has been a Sports Information Director at Division III New York City Technical College in Brooklyn, New York, since 1998.

John Tom (B.S. '85) received a full scholarship for the advanced certificate in Bilingual Education at the Long Island University, Brooklyn Campus.

bom.com announced the addition of **Amar Hanspal** (M.S. '86) to its board of advisors. Hanspal was co-founder of RedSpark Inc.

Eva M. Oszkinski (B.S. '86) is the project leader of the ticker support group at Reuters. She has worked for Reuters for 15 years.

April (Weinstein) Volponi (B.A. '86, M.A. '88) is the Assistant Principal of the English/Theatre/Library Departments at Hillcrest High School in Queens.

Fred Bronstein (D.M.A. '87) has been named president of the Dallas Symphony Association.

Mary McKenna (Ph.D. '87) has been elected to the American Institute of Biological Sciences Board of Directors. McKenna is an associate professor of biology at Howard University.

Lois (Sicignano) Rowman (B.S. '87, M.S. '94) is married to **Bob Rowman** (DMV '76). She recently left her job with the Women in Science and Engineering program at SBU, and is now attending Touro College's Law Center.

Debra Scala (B.A. '87), a marketing director for the law firm of Certilman Balin and Adler & Hyman, LLP, has been named by *L.I. Business News* as a member of its 40 Under 40 List.

Michael Atkinson (M.A.L. '88) is stepping down from his position as Sachem girls' basketball coach after nine seasons. He has been a science teacher at Sachem for 19 years.

Virginia I. Heath (B.A. '88) was admitted to the New York State Bar in 1992. She works as an assistant in a law firm that focuses on securities trade litigation.

Karen Persichilli Keogh (B.S. '88) is now the New York State Director for U.S. Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton.

1990s

Anthony Forti (B.S. '92) is a chemistry teacher in Long Island's Lindenhurst High School.

Amon Gotian (B.S. '92) and **Ruth B. (Ginsburg) Gotian** (B.S. '92) were married in 1995 and had a baby boy in 2000.

Lee J. Montes (B.S. '92) married Michelle Treichler on October 6, 2001.

David Joachim ('93) has launched Joachim Business Media to serve the needs of major magazine publishers and corporations.

Patricia A. Casey's (M.A.L. '93) son Michael is a graduate of Stony Brook now going to Columbia University on scholarship. Her daughter Aileen is a 2002 graduate, while her grandson, Kevin, is a freshman at Stony Brook. "We are a Stony Brook family and proud of it!"

A Beethoven scholar and concert pianist who performs throughout Europe, **Stefan Litwin** (D.M.A. '93) recently opened the Santa Fe Symphony's Beethoven Festival with a recital.

Musicians **Brett Sparks** (M.A. '93) and **Rennie (Rosner) Sparks** (B.A. '87), better known as the folk duo The Handsome Family, have been touring the country following the release of their CD *Twilight*.

Leah Jefferson (B.A. '94) recently took a position as Outreach Coordinator at the New York State Consumer Protection Board.

Seth A. Lipshie (M.A.L. '94) is the new assistant principal of North Country Road Middle School in Miller Place, NY.

Scott Payne (B.S. '94) has been appointed assistant principal of West Babylon junior high.

James T. Sangiovanni (B.A. '94), "Fuzz" as he's known professionally, is the guitarist for the Funk Band Deep Banana Blackout.

Douglas Vakoch (Ph.D. '94) is resident psychologist at the SETI Institute in Mountain View, CA. As "Interstellar Message Group Leader," he formulates ideas for a response in the event that researchers ever establish contact with extra-terrestrials.

2000s

Daniel Debord (B.S. '01) is an ad analyst at JP MorganChase. He is a new member of Stony Brook's Wall Street Group.

Ophelia M. Morris (B.S. '01) joined the Cold Spring Harbor DNA Microarray Facility as a laboratory technician.

In Memoriam

William F. Burke Jr. (M.A. '80)

Richard S. Gabrielle (B.A. '76)

Kuifai Kwok (B.A. '94)

Robert G. Unterman (B.A. '69), married to Susan Unterman, an SBU alum.



Building Bridges to the Future

Margot Ammann Durrer

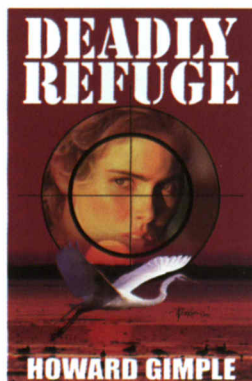
grew up—literally and figuratively—in the shadow of the George Washington Bridge. Her father, Othmar H. Ammann, engineered and built that majestic structure, along with several great spans that connect New York City to the rest of the country. "Growing up, I always felt like the bridge was my big sister," said Dr. Ammann Durrer. "And, in our house, she's the one who got most of the attention."

Ammann Durrer built bridges of a different kind. Unlike her father's steel and concrete legacies—the George Washington, Verrazano, Throgs Neck, and Whitestone bridges—Ammann Durrer's bridges were made of care, compassion, and generosity.

When she received an invitation to attend the dedication of Ammann College in 1955, Dr. Ammann Durrer had never heard of Stony Brook University. Honored that the University named a building after her father, who had passed away just a year earlier, she started a bond with Stony Brook that has grown over the years.

Her first gift to the University was a small insurance policy. After a short time she initiated a scholarship fund. She visited the campus every year to meet with her scholarship recipients. "I always looked forward to the annual student luncheon," she said. She would surprise each student with an envelope containing an extra \$50. In addition to scholarships, Ammann Durrer endowed a cancer research fund in honor of her mother.

"Giving is not just for millionaires," says Ammann Durrer "it's an acquired pleasure that only increases over time."

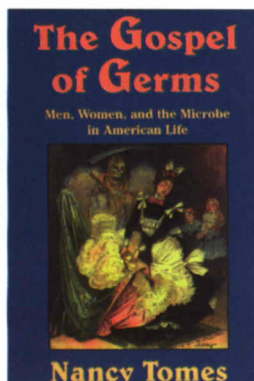


Deadly Refuge

by **Howard Gimple**
 Department of Communications
 Stony Brook University

2001, Xlibris Corporation
 204 pages

Through witty dialogue and a suspenseful plot, Howard Gimple offers the reader a contemporary thriller with a dash of romance woven in. Hannah Swensen, a wildlife photographer and thirty-something divorcee living with her colorful mother, finds herself solidly embroiled in a mystery one day while out shooting the mating ritual of a male egret at the Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge. Hannah's roll of film captures more than it should have and lands her in the middle of an international conspiracy of smuggling and murder, linking South Africa and Long Island, New York. Jack Lager, a U.S. Customs investigator, follows clues that lead him to the Wildlife Refuge—and Hannah. Their unlikely partnership in solving the crimes results in a roller-coaster ride of drama and suspense.

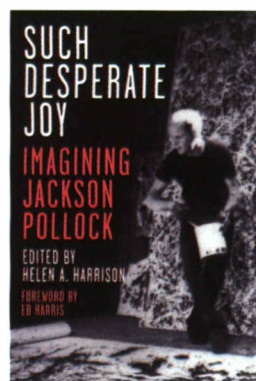


The Gospel of Germs

Men, Women, and the Microbe in American Life
 by **Nancy Tomes**
 Professor, History Department
 Stony Brook University

1999, Harvard University Press
 351 pages

Nancy Tomes's scholarly book presents a history of science with appeal to the general reader, as well as historians and physicians. Tomes examines what she terms "the gospel of germs," an outgrowth of the germ theory set forth in the 19th century as scientific doctrine—the belief that certain bacteria cause disease and can be avoided through preventive measures. Tomes's research draws on careful analysis of oral histories, advertisements, patent applications, books of advice, and other sources. Tomes offers a critical perspective for understanding the ongoing problems modern society faces from infectious disease, a subject never more relevant than it is today. The History of Science Society awarded Tomes the 2001 Watson Davis and Helen Miles Davis Prize for *The Gospel of Germs*, "a remarkable work of medical and cultural history."

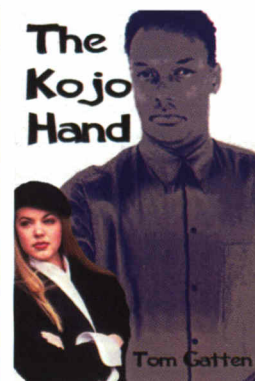


Such Desperate Joy: Imagining Jackson Pollock

edited by **Helen A. Harrison**
 Director, Pollock-Krasner
 House and Study Center
 Stony Brook University

2000, Thunder's Mouth Press
 409 pages

Helen Harrison has compiled a survey of responses to the life and art of Jackson Pollock, America's most famous and controversial abstract painter and the subject of Ed Harris's Academy Award-winning feature film, *Pollock* (see *The Brook*, Summer 2001). The anthology, with an introduction by Harrison and a foreword by Harris, who portrayed Pollock in the film, makes extensive use of obscure and previously unpublished material from the Study Center's archives and oral history collection. Pollock's profound influence on modern art, his impact on those who knew him, and his lasting relevance for contemporary artists are reflected in this eclectic collection, which includes visual art, poetry, musical compositions, theatrical works, personal statements, analytical essays and interviews, as well as a documentary section that chronicles Pollock's life and death.



The Kojo Hand

by **Tom Gatten**
 Professor, English Department
 (1968-1978), Stony Brook
 University

2001, 1st Books Library
 237 pages

Tom Gatten's novel about people pursuing their dreams is set in 1972 on the north shore of Long Island. The main character, Deanie Hollins, is profoundly changed through her experiences and the people she meets, particularly her dynamic professor, Kojo Dedu, a scholar and social activist from Ghana. Stony Brook alumni will recognize Gatten's description of Peeze University, as well as some of the characters.

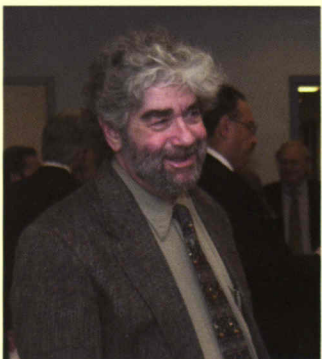
Seeking the Write Stuff

The Brook welcomes submissions of books recently written by alumni, faculty, and staff. Contact: Sherrill Jones, Editor, "Brookmarks," Stony Brook University, Office of Communications, Room 144 Administration, Stony Brook, NY 11794-0605. E-mail: Sherrill.Jones@stonybrook.edu

Please note: *The Brook* does not offer the books featured herein for sale. Consult your local bookstore or online source.



Suffolk County police officers escort Michael Zweig to jail.



Michael Zweig today.

In May 1969, when this picture was taken, the campus was still reeling from what happened at 5 a.m. one day in January 1968, when more than 200 Suffolk County police officers swarmed onto campus to arrest 38 students. It was a drug bust, followed by a number of official investigations into drug use on campus, including a special grand jury sitting in Riverhead. I was subpoenaed as a faculty member to appear before this grand jury and testified in May 1969. I told the special prosecutor, the grand jury, and the judge that I would answer all questions about myself, but no questions about other people, in particular about students. As a teacher, I talk privately to many students about their lives, sometimes dealing with serious personal issues. I have never com-

promised the confidentiality of these talks. When I refused the judge's order to discuss students, I was cited with contempt of court and arrested, along with Joe Seif of the Math Department, who also refused to name names. This picture shows me being led away to the Suffolk County jail in Riverhead. Because our arrests were public they could be followed by protests and legal action. We were released after serving ten days and not forced to testify.

I am still at Stony Brook University, still talking with students, and involved in the Group for the study of Working Class Life, an interdisciplinary initiative of more than forty faculty and professional staff on campus (www.workingclass.sunysb.edu). We study the importance of class

in shaping people's lives, part of a newly emerging field called "working class studies." Several Stony Brook alums are working with us and I look forward to hearing from others who would like to know more about how class works or who can contribute to our knowledge.

Economics Professor Michael Zweig came to Stony Brook in 1967. He is the recipient of the SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching (1991) and author, most recently, of The Working Class Majority: America's Best Kept Secret (Cornell University Press, 2000). E-mail: Michael.Zweig@stonybrook.edu

\$1.5 Million Raised at Stars of Stony Brook Gala



PHOTO: KATHERINE MCGILVRA

The employees of Computer Associates International, Inc. took center stage at this year's May 9 Gala event, which was co-chaired by Richard Gelfond and James Simons. The money will support Stony Brook scholarships and other University initiatives. Computer Associates president and chief executive officer Sanjay Kumar (center) and executive vice president Russell Artzt accepted the award on behalf of the CA employees from President Kenny.

THE BROOK

Office of Communications
Room 144 Administration
Stony Brook University
Stony Brook, NY 11794-0605

**Assistant Vice President
and Creative Director:**

Yvette St. Jacques

Editor: Joanne Morici

Designer: Wendy Gross
Milton Glaser, Inc.

Managing Editor: Shelley Colwell

Senior Editor: Susan Tito

Senior Writers: Howard Gimple,
Sherrill Jones, Toby Speed, and
Lynne Vessie

Art Directors:

Tom Giacalone, Karen Leibowitz

The Brook is a publication of the Office of Communications, 144 Administration, Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, NY 11794-0605. © 2002

The University at Stony Brook is an affirmative action/equal opportunity educator and employer. This publication is available in alternative format on request.

NONPROFIT
U.S. Postage Paid
Stony Brook
University