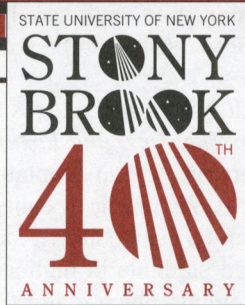


HAPPENINGS

FACULTY/STAFF/FRIENDS NEWSLETTER



VOLUME 5 NO.3 FEBRUARY 18, 1998

Innovative Ideas at March 6 Meeting

Several years ago, Stony Brook created the Academy of Teacher-Scholars and the Presidential Mini-Grant Program to help innovative teaching faculty bring their ideas to fruition. Now nine teacher-scholars and mini-grant recipients will share their results, in what is expected to become an annual event.

The "First Symposium to Promote Innovation in Undergraduate Education and Diversity Initiatives" will be held March 6, in the Alliance Room (Room W0512) of the Melville Library. Jim Mackin, who administers the Academy, organized the event. "We want to invite other faculty to adapt these ideas for use in additional settings," Mackin says.

Speaking at the symposium will be: Gary Mar, who designed and taught a new course in Asian American studies; Helen Lemay and Sarah Sternglanz, who are in the second year of a three-year plan to develop a Gay and Lesbian Studies Minor; Alex King, who uses a video camera to help train teaching assistants in materials science and engineering; Peter Gregory Angelo, who made a training video to teach aquatic skills to people with severe physical or multiple disabilities; Judith

Continued on reverse

"One-Stop Shop" for Future Grads

On February 24-26, from 11 a.m.-7 p.m. each day, the Student Activities Center will become a "supermarket" where prospective graduates (from Bachelors to Ph.D.s) can do the planning and purchasing they need for one of the biggest events of their lives.

This is the first time the University will host a "graduate salute." It has been organized by the Office of Conferences and Special Events, the University Bookstore, and Jostens (a company that specializes in graduation items).

Students will be able to check on their standing for graduation; purchase academic regalia; order flowers; book hotel rooms for visitors; order yearbooks; and have their pictures taken. They can also make inquiries about applying to graduate programs and join the Stony Brook Alumni Association. Staff from the Career Placement Center will be on hand, to advise students on how to land that first post-Stony Brook job.

The Student Activities Center will be decorated for the occasion. There will be door prizes and free refreshments.



President Kenny surrounded by Hughes Fellows. Front row, left to right: Hester Suh, Mark Stern, Michelle Ryndak. Second row: Sean Li, Zhen Qin (Julie) Wu, Homayara Haque. In the third row are: Eugene Katz, associate dean, College of Arts and Sciences; William Collins, director of undergraduate biology; David Bynum, director of the Hughes Undergraduate Research Fellows program.

Undergraduate Researchers Honored

Several undergraduates who work on biological research projects in University laboratories were honored earlier this month, at a ceremony in the Department of Biochemistry and Cell Biology. These students, Howard Hughes Medical Institute Undergraduate Research Fellows, were selected for the one-year, \$3,000 fellowships by a committee of Stony Brook faculty.

Though the students' projects cover a range of topics, they share a common theme: basic science that furthers clinical medicine. Some of the students are studying organisms or mechanisms involved in human diseases. Hester Suh works in Dmitry Goldgaber's lab on the molecular basis for Alzheimer's disease. Mark Stern studies *Legionella pneumophila*, the organism that causes Legionnaire's disease, with Craig Roy. Michelle Ryndak is looking at an outer-membrane protein of the organism *Yersinia* (one species of *Yersinia* is the agent of bubonic plague), under the guidance of James Bliska. Sean Li studies the tumor suppressor p53, the most frequently mutated gene in known human cancers. Sean works in Robert Haltiwanger's lab. Homayara Haque's research also bears relevance to human cancer; she studies mutations in two *Drosophila* genes, together with J. Peter Gergen. And Zhen Qin (Julie) Wu is working in Janet Anderson's lab, exploring the role of cocaine in the induction of preterm labor.

President Shirley Strum Kenny invites
the campus community to the third presentation in the
Presidential Lecture Series

"An Art Journey: David C. Driskell, Painter"

David C. Driskell, author, curator, and artist

Lecture: Staller Center Art Gallery

Wednesday, March 4, 1998; 12:40 p.m. - 2:10 p.m.

Exhibition: SB Union Art Gallery

Wednesday, March 4-Friday, March 20

Opening Reception: SB Union Art Gallery

Wednesday, March 4; 2:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Korea or Bust: Singers Need Help

by Susan Risoli

There's good news and bad news about the University's Camerata Singers. The 30-member choir has been invited to sing at the prestigious World Choral Festival in Seoul, Korea this summer. But they can't afford the airfare.

"This will be our most important, but also most expensive, tour ever," says Timothy Mount, music professor and director of the Camerata Singers. The festival will pay all expenses for the choir while in Korea, but airfare (\$1,000 per person) is not included. Mount is seeking ways to raise the money.

Camerata means "comrades" in Italian, and was used in 17th century Europe to describe groups of musicians that met to sing oratorios (sacred operas) during Lent. Some members of the Camerata Singers are University faculty, staff, and students. Others are from the community, many of them professional musicians or music teachers. (In addition to funds for the Korea trip, Mount also is looking for another bass voice to join the group.)

Though the Singers have been asked to perform at festivals before, the invitation from Korea is a special honor: they will be the only United States choir at the World Choral Festival. (The Singers may have had a bit of an edge. University faculty member Mark Setton, who teaches Korean Studies here, visited the festival organizers in Korea to put in a good word.)

The trip will take place August 13-20. Since the Singers have also been asked to give a performance in Japan, Mount hopes they can include that country in their itinerary.

If you're a bass and want to audition for the Camerata Singers, or if you want to help defray their trip to Korea, call Tim Mount at 2-7329 or 2-7330.

New Center Will Treat Miscarriage

A new Center for Recurrent Pregnancy Loss has opened at University Medical Center. It will provide diagnosis and treatment for those who have had recurrent miscarriages.

Approximately 5% of expectant parents experience recurrent pregnancy loss. The causes are varied and could be hormonal, infectious, congenital, genetic, or immunologic.

The center will be headed by Richard Bronson, M.D., director of the Division of Reproductive Endocrinology, Department of OB/GYN.

For more information about the center, call Dr. Bronson at 4-2737.

Italian Treasures

by Ann Ferrar Dusek

The Center for Italian Studies, founded in 1985, offers a wealth of Italian and Italian-American cultural resources. Located in Room N5006 of the Melville Library, it has a collection of audiotapes and films on video—you can borrow, free of charge, everything from *The Godfather* to *Maria Callas: Medea*. There are books, too, ranging from *The Boys of Bensonhurst* to *The New Italian Novel*, and periodicals, including the center's own *Forum Italicum*, one of the world's foremost journals of Italian and Italian-American essays, poetry, and translations. Stony Brook professor Mario Mignone, director of the center, edits the journal.

The center sponsors activities on- and off-campus. There are film presentations, concerts, and plays. Classes in Italian language are taught on campus and in Rocky Point and Huntington. There are bus trips to museums and to places like Arthur Avenue, the Bronx's Little Italy. A recent symposium brought together great Italian-American writers; another gathered entrepreneurs interested in doing business with Italy.

The center provides scholarships and fellowships for qualified students seeking degrees in Italian Studies at Stony Brook. It also hosts poetry and essay contests for high school students.

There is no formal membership, but there are 2,000 people on the center's mailing list. Says Mignone, "We have built a cultural bridge between the university and the community." And quite a community it is—Italian-Americans are the largest ethnic group on Long Island, comprising 27% of the total population.

For a spring schedule of events, call the center at 2-7444.

Diversity Is

A column from the Office of the Assistant Vice President for Presidential Initiatives.

What's Happening?

Faculty and administrators frequently ask how diversity actually benefits students. Since Stony Brook strives to be student-centered, this issue is of special import to all of us.

The 1997 Association of American Colleges and Universities (AAC&U) publication *Diversity Works: The Emerging Picture of How Students Benefit*, provides a review of the literature and an annotated bibliography of research on campus diversity's impact on American college students. The research "... traces a movement from focused concern for the access, retention, and success of underrepresented students in higher education to broader concerns about the effects of demographics, cultural, and social changes on the educational context as a whole—campus services, intergroup relations, pedagogy, the curriculum, and institutional purpose." At least 15 strategies are listed in terms of "what works," based on the collected research. This book is appropriate for faculty members, student affairs professionals, and all who are interested in maximizing student potential; it is available from AAC&U at 202-387-3760, or online at PUBDESK@AACU.NW.DC.US.

Did You Know?

The Committee to Celebrate Diversity identifies monthly themes that focus on various dimensions of the campus community's rich diversity; the Committee sponsors a monthly competition with a \$500 award to encourage individuals, groups, and organizations to plan events that enhance understanding and acceptance in the context of these themes. For this semester, the themes are: February - Black History Month; March - Women's History Month; April - Diversity of Cultures, Focus on the Arts. Information about planned events must be received in Campus Residences, Mendelsohn Quad, by the 15th of the prior month to be included in the calendar and the competition. Submission forms are available from Campus Residences, Student Union, and HSC Student Services, or call 2-6974.

The retention rate for Stony Brook's African-American first-time, full-time students entering fall 1987 through fall 1994 was the highest of any student group on which the University keeps statistics (88%).

The President's Student Advisory Council on Diversity—presidents of student ethnic, cultural, and political clubs and organizations—meets several times per semester with Dr. Kenny to assess the campus climate regarding multicultural issues, and to devise ways of bringing students from diverse backgrounds together around common goals and activities. The group is sponsoring a spring retreat to plan an event for the University's 40th anniversary celebration in April. Anyone wishing to share an idea for the celebration should speak to one of the presidents of the student clubs, or to the Polity President, Monique Maylor.

—George J. Meyer

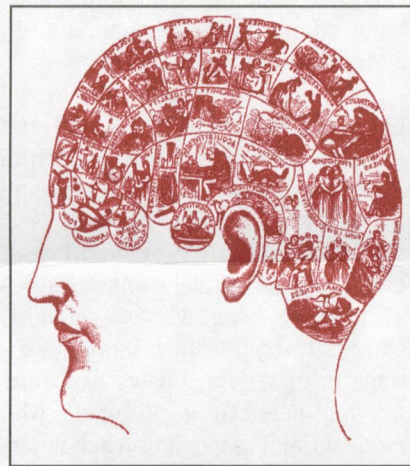
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Lochhead, who is exploring the use of software programs to teach music analysis; Michael Barnhart, who designed a cooperative learning seminar that recreates the international power rivalry of 1936-46; John J. Shea, who developed and taught a course in which undergraduates make stone tools using aboriginal techniques; and Patrick Grim, who created and is implementing a series of three-year "undergraduate research tracks" in philosophy.

Presidential Mini-Grants were established two years ago by President Kenny and are administered by George Meyer, assistant vice president for presidential initiatives. The one-year grants are a maximum of \$4,000 each.

The Academy of Teacher-Scholars was established in 1995 by Stony Brook's University Senate to honor and reward excellent undergraduate teaching. Winners receive a stipend of \$5,000, with an additional \$5,000 in flexible funds awarded to their departments.

For more information on the Academy of Teacher-Scholars, call the Office of Undergraduate Affairs at 2-7080. For information on Presidential Mini-Grants, call George Meyer (2-6271) or Dorothy Challice (2-7272) in the President's Office.



Calendar - February 18 - March 3

FILM

Get a \$25 season pass good for 20 films in the series or purchase an individual ticket for \$4, students, senior citizens and children 12 and under, \$3. For reservations or information, call the Staller Center Box Office at 2-7230.

2/20, Friday: *Seven Years in Tibet*. 9:30 p.m., Main Stage, Staller Center.

2/27, Friday: *Washington Square*. 7 p.m., Main Stage, Staller Center.

2/27, Friday: *Starship Troopers*. 9:30 p.m., Main Stage, Staller Center.

LECTURES

2/19, Thursday. "Update on Maculopathies," Pam Weber, M.D. HSC Level 4, Radiology Lecture Hall. Light meal to be served at 6 p.m., lecture and questions 6:30-8 p.m. Call in advance, 4-1111.

2/23, Monday. "Plasmid Shuffle for a Human Homologue of Yeast Transcription Factor IIIB," graduate student Laura Schramm, Basic Science Tower Level T-8, Room 140, 12 noon.

2/24, Tuesday. "Specificity in Tyrosine Kinase Signalling Pathways," Dr. Todd Miller, Basic Science Tower Level T-8, Room 140, 4 p.m.

MUSIC

2/21, Saturday. *Stony Brook Symphony Orchestra Concert*. 8 p.m., Main Stage, Staller Center. The orchestra will perform Weber's *Overture to Oberon*, Dohnanyi's *Variations on a Nursery Tune*, and Bartok's *Concerto for Orchestra*. Tickets \$12, students and senior citizens, \$6. Call 2-7230 for information. Free pre-concert lecture, 7 p.m., Recital Hall.

ONGOING

2/18, Wednesday - 5/8, Friday. "Puerto Rico en Color" photographic exhibition featuring photographer Diane Tong. At the Latin American and Caribbean Center Conference Room (SBS N-320).

2/18, Wednesday - 3/7, Saturday. *University Art Gallery Master of Fine Arts Show*. Noon through 4 p.m., Tuesday through Friday, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., Saturdays, Art Gallery, Staller Center for the Arts. Featuring works by Cathleen Cavanagh, Nathan Japel, Ju-Yei Judy Lee, Marcia Neblett, Jason Paradis and Craig Zammiello. For info call 2-7240.

SPECIAL EVENTS

2/25, Wednesday. *Health Careers Seminar for Undergraduate Students*. Panel discussion on health professions. For info, call Diane Piscitelli, School of Medicine, 4-2312. Level 3, Lecture Hall 6, HSC, 12:40 p.m. - 2 p.m.

3/1, Sunday. *Girls and Women in Sports Day*. Outstanding high school seniors honored. For info call Susan DiMonda at 2-7206 or Teri Tiso at 2-7212. Student Activities Center, 2-4 p.m.

2/28, Saturday - 4/4, Saturday. *Children's Crafts Workshops*. The Stony Brook Union Crafts Center will present Saturday morning Children's Workshops, each Saturday from February 28 through April 4, 10:15 a.m. - noon. Clay & Mixed Media: focuses on painting, drawing, collage, printing for ages 5-7. All materials included in \$55 fee. Clay: hand building, clay sculpture, glazes, and firing for ages 8-11. All materials included in \$60 fee. Workshops will be held in the Union Crafts Center, lower level of the Student Union Building. Pre-registration is required. For more info call 2-6822.

"Open Nights" on Rocks and Quakes

True or false: earthquakes that damage the largest areas of the United States happen in California or Alaska. False—they occur in the eastern half of the country, and there will be more of them. Learn these and other facts at the Department of Geoscience's new series of "Geology Open Nights." The evenings include hour-long lectures by Stony Brook faculty (7:30 p.m., Room 123, Earth and Space Sciences Building), lab tours, refreshments and admission to the Museum of Long Island Natural Sciences on the first floor of the ESS. "Open Nights" are free and the public is invited.

Friday, February 27--*When Push Came to Shove: How Glaciers Formed Long Island*. Gilbert Hanson argues that our local landscape was created in the advancing thrust of Ice Age glaciers, not in their wake (as many people think.)

Friday, March 27--*Shake, Rattle, and Roll: Earthquakes and Long Island*. Daniel Davis discusses the risk of earthquakes on Long Island, and explains how quakes formed the region.

Friday, April 24--*Cat-Cracking and Kitty Litter: Minerals as Inspiration for Technology*. John

Parise looks at modern synthetic "minerals" that change our world and provide cheap, plentiful materials for valuable products.

For more info call 2-8535 or access www.geo.sunysb.edu/openight/.

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