

AUGUST

CONVERSATIONS UNLIMITED - Monday, Aug. 4, 1986

INTRO UP AND UNDER

Hi, everybody. Science and technology have become a major part of everyday life for all of us. It's impossible to escape the wonders of electronics; for example, computers and television have dominant roles. And yet, many of us are afraid of science and technology. We say, "It's too hard to understand." And we say, "I've never been good at that."

Many educators and education administrators are working to overcome that attitude. As a result, science education is being stepped up in the public schools.

Today we'll talk with an educator who is helping to teach teachers how to teach students in the fields of science and technology. Lester Paldy is well-qualified for the role.

He is a physicist and a faculty member in physics at the State University of New York at Stony Brook. Professor Paldy served for years as dean of continuing education at Stony Brook and in the past year has founded a new agency, the Center for ~~Education in~~ Science, Mathematics and Technology also at the Stony Brook campus. Professor Paldy, is it your experience that many people believe they cannot understand the sciences?

*Technology + Society Dept.*

*Education,*

INTERVIEW PROFESSOR PALDY:

- Outline former traditional science education in public schools -- elementary, secondary
- What factors have influenced need for change?
- How are other countries carrying out changes?
- What are other states doing in U.S.?
- What do New York's Board of Regents require of teachers and students in science/tech/math?
- Note complaints that Regents' have reduced required science study from 15 semester hours to 45 clock hours.
- How is higher education moving to help?

(Touch on SUSB's center)

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13:45  
~~14:00~~

We'll take a short break now. When we return, we'll be talking with Les Paldy about the new program at Stony Brook to help prepare elementary school teachers to teach science in their classrooms. Please stay with us.

BRIDGE MUSIC UP AND UNDER

Hi. I'm Al Oickle, and I'm at the State University of New York at Stony Brook with Lester Paldy, director of the new Center for ~~Education in~~ Science, Mathematics and Technology. <sup>Education.</sup> The center has been functioning for about a year now, Professor Paldy. Have you had enough experience to know how well the public school teachers are doing?

INTERVIEW PROFESSOR PALDY: *Earth Sciences*

- Describe the July program for Long Island teachers
- Discuss bringing nature into classroom
- How is technology made interesting to learn
- How many (who?) faculty participate?
- Any demonstration sessions with youngsters?
- Role of media (Newsday's Discover, ABC's 20/20, "Mr. Wizard" science program
- What's ahead?

~~29:00~~  
OUTRO *27:30*

*VIDEOTAPES*

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