



OFFICE OF THE PROVOST AND  
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

TO: University Senate

FROM: Robert L. McGrath,  
Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

DATE: September 11, 2006

**REPORT TO THE UNIVERSITY SENATE**

GRANTS

Stony Brook University has been granted \$1,699,800 from the SUNY Empire Innovation Program, a new program from the State Legislature to encourage growth in sponsored research among the SUNY campuses. These base funds will be used towards faculty lines in CEWIT, the Center for Infectious Disease, Computational Science, CESER, Diabetes and Endocrinology, Chemical Biology and in Neuroscience.

The SUNY High Needs Program has also grant \$200,000 to the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences and \$80,000 to the School of Nursing to provide education and training to students in occupational fields of high need in New York State.

Through the acquisition of two new machines, Stony Brook is leading the way among public research universities in a innovative era of computational research. The New York State Legislature has approved a line item of \$26 million to site a 100-teraflop supercomputer as part of a Stony Brook/BNL collaboration. The computer will be owned by SBU, but sited at Brookhaven National Lab, with funding expected to arrive early in FY07.

Stony Brook has also acquired the Seawulf Cluster, a new custom-built 3.2 teraFLOPS, 470-processor Linux Cluster supercomputer which will aid faculty researchers and graduate students in processing complicated calculations at high speed, which will dramatically accelerate research computations.

OPENING OF SCHOOL

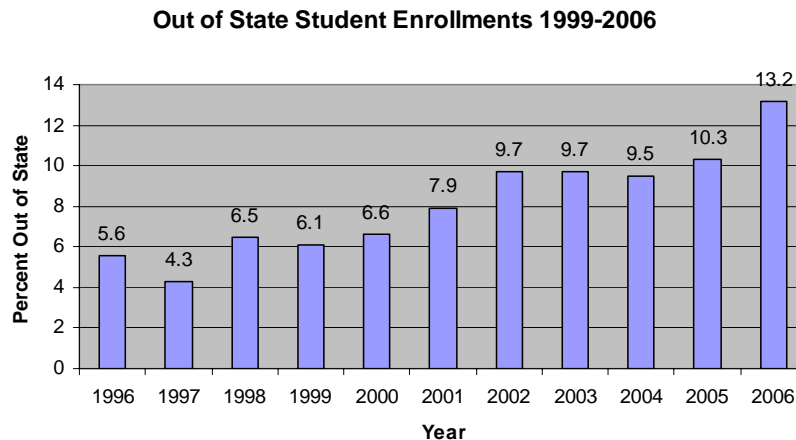
A total of 21,847 students were registered on opening day this fall, 685 more than last year when 21,162 students were registered. Compared to last year there are:  
455 more West Campus undergraduates

281 more students in the Graduate School, including 149 more MBA students  
282 fewer students in SPD  
231 more East Campus students

Despite a national drop of 7 points in average SAT scores among high school seniors, our incoming students (regular admits) have an average SAT of 1215, up from 1213 last year. The average SAT score for students in the Honor's College this year is an outstanding 1415.

#### OUT-OF-STATE STUDENTS

Our out of state recruiting efforts are helping to increase enrollments, with 13.2% of this year's student body coming from outside of New York State.



The recruiting efforts in Asia have also been productive, drawing 45 undergraduate students from China, 11 from India and 57 undergraduates from Korea this year.

#### UNDERGRADUATE COLLEGES

The Undergraduate Colleges are celebrating the opening of school with several activities engaging new freshman and upperclassman. The smaller college within a larger university model has worked extremely well these past three years since its inception in drawing higher achieving students and in creating a tighter campus community focused on research and learning outcomes.

The Freshman 102 Seminars are at the core of the Undergraduate Colleges; offered each spring, these small seminars allow students close interaction with faculty and provide faculty the opportunity to create a seminar based on their own intellectual interests. The Deans have encouraged faculty to become involved in these seminars and as leaders in the University, Senators should greatly support the Deans' efforts. To volunteer to teach a Freshman Seminar this spring, please contact Jean Peden, Director of Undergraduate Colleges.

#### WINTERSESSION 2007

Stony Brook will hold a three week Wintersession for the second year with classes beginning January 2, 2007 and ending January 18, 2007. Last year's Wintersession offered 46 courses and enrolled 875 students. Our goal is to expand the Wintersession program, offering courses to address unmet demand and to assist students in fulfilling graduation requirements. Again, the

members of the University Senate can play a vital role in the development of the Wintersession at Stony Brook. To offer or suggest courses for this Winter, please contact Associate Provost Brent Lindquist.

#### PERSONNEL CHANGES IN THE OFFICE OF THE PROVOST

As you may have seen in an announcement to campus this summer, Brent Lindquist of the Department of Applied Math and Statistics, who I'm sure you are all familiar with, and Femi Vaughan of the Departments of History and Africana Studies have joined my office as my new Associate Provost's and will be working on a variety of matters including Academic Reviews, the Provost's Lectures Series, Distinguished Professorships, FAHSS Initiatives, Summer and Winter Sessions as well as many of the coordination efforts with the Stony Brook Manhattan, Stony Brook Southampton, the Dean's offices, SUNY, Brookhaven National Lab and the Senate.

Elyce Winters has returned to my office full time as my Assistant Provost for Academic Administration. Elyce will handle matters formerly addressed by the Assistant Provost for Administration and Operations as well as continuing her work with BNL matters for the Office of the Vice President for Brookhaven Affairs.

Sharon Kane has also joined our staff as my Staff Assistant and can be contacted for general inquiries.

I will also announce a national search for a new position in my office this fall; a Vice Provost for Undergraduate Academic Affairs. This position will focus on continuing the wonderful improvements we have made to the way we deliver undergraduate education. I hope that the Senate will forward nominations and be involved in the search for an outstanding candidate to this new post.

#### PROVOST LECTURE SERIES

This year promises to bring yet another intriguing set of talks in the Provost's Lecture Series which will kick off with a lecture by Stony Brook's own Professor Jeff Segal, Chair of the Department of Political Science. Professor Segal will give a talk entitled *Advice and Consent: The Politics of Judicial Appointments* on Thursday, September 14, 2006, 4:00 p.m. in the Wang Center, Lecture Hall 2.

On Wednesday Sept 27, 2006 at 1:00 p.m. in the Student Activities Center Main Auditorium, the Provost's Lecture Series in conjunction with the Departments of Physiology and Biophysics and Ecology and Evolution will present a talk by David Doubilet, National Geographic Photographer entitled *A Photo Essay: From Beneath the Keel*.

#### DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AND TEACHING PROFESSOR NOMINATIONS

The call for nominations for this year's Distinguished Service and Teaching Professor Awards was announced on September 1<sup>st</sup>. Nomination forms and complete guidelines for the awards can be accessed on the Provost's Office website at <http://www.stonybrook.edu/provost/index.html>.

The Provost's Office site also includes information on the Chancellor's/President's Awards for: Excellence in Teaching, Excellence in Faculty Service, Excellence in Librarianship, Excellence in Professional Service, and Excellence in Scholarship and Creative Activities.

The nominations for Distinguished Professor are distinct from the recent call described above and are handled through a committee of Distinguished Professors. For additional information in nominating a colleague as a Distinguished Professor, please see the website at <http://ws.cc.stonybrook.edu/provost/Policies/revised2.htm>

