



To the Campus Community

Samuel L. Stanley, Jr., M.D., President to: Torre,F.Jason
Please respond to clondoiro

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To All Faculty, Staff and Students,

It is with sadness that I inform the Stony Brook University Community that Alec Pond died of cancer early Sunday morning, August 29, 2010.

Professor T. Alexander Pond pursued his undergraduate and graduate education from 1947 through 1953 at Princeton University, earning his doctoral degree under the supervision of Professor Robert Dicke. He then spent nine years as a faculty member at Washington University before coming to Stony Brook as Chairman of the Physics Department in 1962.

During his years as Chairman from 1962 through 1968, he worked with extraordinary vision and effectiveness to set in place all aspects of the present departmental configuration, transforming it from a small group with unexpressed aspirations to a graduate physics department with an international reputation. He wrote the successful proposal to secure the Einstein Chair in physics for Stony Brook with C.N. "Frank" Yang the 1957 Nobel Laureate in Physics as its occupant. He was also instrumental in the recruitment of John S. Toll as President of Stony Brook University in 1965.

Later, he turned his attention to leadership of the university and served in a variety of capacities including Executive Vice President and Acting President. He stepped down from his administrative position in 1978 and briefly returned to the Physics department as Professor before accepting an appointment at Rutgers University in 1982, where he served for 20 years primarily as Executive Vice President. In 1998, he was awarded an honorary Doctor of Science Degree, Honoris Causa from Stony Brook.

On behalf of Stony Brook University, I extend sincere condolences to Alec's family, close friends and colleagues who mourn his passing. He was a great man; he accomplished great things. His contribution to Stony Brook University - indeed his legacy - is profound.

Samuel L. Stanley Jr., M.D.
President