

September 1, 2004

To: All Faculty and Staff

Colleagues,

I am delighted to inform you that all six Stony Brook Undergraduate Colleges are now a reality. Three new faculty directors have been appointed: Paul Bingham, Associate Professor of Biochemistry (College of Human Development), Manuel London, Professor of Business Management and Associate Provost (College of Leadership and Service), and Michael Schwartz, Professor of Sociology (College of Global Studies).

Professor Paul Bingham received his Ph.D. in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from Harvard and has been on the faculty of the Biochemistry department for over 20 years. He is known for his long and strong commitment to innovative undergraduate education. His current research activities are diverse, including cancer chemotherapy and the scientific problems of human evolution and human history.

Professor Manuel London has served as Associate Provost for Enrollment and Retention Management for the last seven years, and is a member of the Harriman School faculty. He holds a Ph.D. in Industrial and Organizational Psychology from the Ohio State University. Before coming to Stony Brook 15 years ago, he held research and management positions with AT&T and was on the faculty of the College of Business at the University of Illinois at Champaign. His research interests are in the areas of performance assessment, career development, and group dynamics. He recently authored the book *Leadership Development: Paths to Self-Insight and Professional Growth*.

Professor Michael Schwartz has taught at Stony Brook since 1970. He has written extensively on the war in Iraq, and more broadly on business structure, political sociology and the dynamics of popular protest and insurgency. His books include *Radical Politics and Social Structure* (1976), *The Power Structure of American Business* (1986, with Beth Mintz) and *The Business Elite as a Ruling Class* (1990). He has been part of many pioneering educational innovations and is a recipient of the Chancellors Award for Excellence in Teaching.

Appointments of directors of the other colleges were announced previously: Perry Goldstein, Associate Professor of Music (College of Arts, Culture, and Humanities), Imin Kao, Associate Professor of Mechanical Engineering (College of Information and Technology Studies), and Jeffrey Levinton, Professor of Ecology and Evolution (College of Science and Society).

The "veteran" directors have each succeeded in putting a personal academic stamp on their colleges and I look forward to similar developments in the new colleges. During September, the directors will be recruiting other tenured faculty members throughout the university to teach the College 102 seminars. These seminars have already proven very successful, both on pure academic grounds and also as a way of building better connections between faculty and students from the very outset.

The Undergraduate Colleges are an important part of creating an undergraduate education program competitive with the best of our public research university peers. As Deans Yacov Shamash and James Staros wrote in their recent memos about the undergraduate colleges, sustained success of the colleges will require sustained faculty commitment and I join them in asking you to get involved if you are not already.

Please join me in welcoming the new faculty directors and please help them to make Stony Brook shine.

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