

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Campus Community

FROM: Shirley Strum Kenny Robert McGrath
President Provost

DATE: February 1, 2005

RE: President's and Provost's Lecture Series
Stony Brook Professors Teng-Fong Wong and Malcolm Bowman
address the threat of tsunami to our region

We invite you to attend a presentation by Stony Brook faculty members Teng-Fong Wong and Malcolm Bowman entitled: "The Day Before the Day After Tomorrow: Threats and Responses to Natural Disasters."

The presentation will be held on **February 16, 2005 during campus lifetime (12:40 – 2:10 p.m.) in the Student Activities Center Auditorium** and is jointly sponsored by the President's Office and The Office of the Provost.

The devastating earthquake and tsunami in South East Asia late last year have focused attention on the likelihood of similar events occurring in the New York region. This lecture will address the links between geological movements and giant waves, the probability of such events in the Atlantic, and the ways in which New York could plan to mitigate the effects of such a disaster.

Material for the presentation has been developed by the Stony Brook Storm Surge Research Group (based in the Marine Sciences Research Center), which has modeled major surge events, studied early warning prediction models and evacuation plans, and proposed the installation of massive storm surge barriers around New York City.

Teng-Fong Wong is Professor of Geophysics and Chair of the Department of Geosciences. He is an international authority in rock mechanics and flow, with special emphasis on earthquake mechanics and environmental impacts. Dr. Wong is a member of the Advisory Board of the San Andreas Fault Observatory at Depth.

Malcolm Bowman is Professor of Physical Oceanography and Distinguished Service Professor at the Marine Sciences Research Center. He leads the Stony Brook Storm Surge Research Group. A Director of the Environmental Defense Society of New Zealand, Dr. Bowman is a prominent environmentalist, with expertise in the effects of global warming on coastal regions and extreme weather events.

We encourage all students, faculty, and staff to attend, and to check the website www.stonybrook.edu/sb/tsunami for other tsunami related information and activities.