



"Robert McGrath, Provost"
<rmcgrath@NOTES.CC.SUNY
SB.EDU>

09/11/2001 09:34 AM

To "Torre,F.Jason" <FTORRE@NOTES.CC.SUNYSB.EDU>

cc

bcc

Subject Provost's Office Staffing

Colleagues,

I am pleased to announce some staffing changes in the Office of the Provost effective immediately.

Professor Mark Aronoff, who has been serving as Associate Provost, has accepted my offer to become Deputy Provost. In this position, he will work closely with me on all matters that come before the office.

As Associate Provost he took the lead in developing our campus response to the SUNY General Education requirements and to the new SUNY requirements on assessment. He has chaired the provost's undergraduate steering committee, organized an expanding provost's lecture series, and organized most of the recent external program reviews done by our office.

As Deputy Provost, he will bring university priorities on undergraduate programs into strategic planning processes, work with several of the units in the academic sector that report to this office in needs assessment and strategic planning, and help coordinate all the activities of this office. This is a full time appointment, but I expect (and trust) that Professor Aronoff will find the time to continue his research in Linguistics for which he is renowned.

Professor David Hicks has agreed to serve as Associate Provost. Well known in our university, he is a cultural anthropologist and has been a member of the Stony Brook faculty since 1968. He has just finished a 3-year term as chair of the Anthropology department. He is widely known for his work on belief and ritual, mythology, kinship and politics of Southeast Asia, and has just returned from a second tour of East Timor observing elections as a delegate of the Carter Center.

I especially appreciate his exemplary performance as chair of the search committees for the Dean/Director of the Melville Libraries in AY99-00 and for the Chair of our new Asian/Asian-American Studies department in AY00-01. Professor Hicks' new appointment follows an internal search begun last spring by a search committee consisting of Professors Christina Bethin, Robert Aller, Lou Deutsch, and Alan Tucker. I want to acknowledge and thank them again for their excellent work.

In this part-time appointment Professor Hicks will take special responsibility for our external reviews, and for coordination of our myriad outreach and undergraduate research programs, but he will also support and buttress all activities of this office.

Professor Lawrence Martin continues as Dean of the Graduate School, but he has agreed to take on the additional role of Associate Provost for Analysis and Planning. I expect that he will devote approximately 15% effort to this new assignment. With our entrance into AAU and consequent access to its databases, and with reconfigured offices of Institutional Research both on our campus and

in SUNY, we have an opportunity to do more systematic analysis of how our operations, resource management practices, and performance compare to our peer institutions, and to our aspirations. This will help our academic sector in our internal affairs, within the university as a whole, within SUNY, and within the community of research universities. I am very pleased that Professor Martin has agreed to do this. I know he will make strong contributions in these matters because of his talents as an administrator, his expertise and interests in quantitative analysis, and his established reputation among graduate deans at research universities.

The Provost's office aspires for this new year to improve strategic planning, operations within the academic sector and coordination with the senates and vice presidential areas. Coincidentally, in the post-Marburger era at Brookhaven National Laboratory I expect to allocate more effort to my role as Vice President for Brookhaven Affairs. I want to help ensure continued excellent management of the laboratory and also continue in building collaborative ventures between our two institutions. These new appointments in the Provost's office will help us meet all these goals.

I hope you had a productive and pleasant summer, and that all goes well as this new academic year begins.

- Robert McGrath, Provost and Exec. VP for Academic Affairs, VP for Brookhaven Affairs