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Subject Dept. of Asian and Asian-American Studies

Colleagues,

I am pleased to announce the formation of a new department in the College of Arts and Sciences, the Department of Asian and Asian-American Studies, and the appointment of the inaugural chair of the new Department, S.N. Sridhar, currently Professor of Linguistics and Director of the Center for India Studies.

Professor Sridhar has been a member of the Stony Brook faculty since 1980. His research interests in linguistics center on descriptive linguistics of Kannada and Indian English, linguistic theory, sociolinguistics, bilingualism and multilingualism. He has published several books in these areas including *Cognition in Sentence Production: A Cross-Linguistic Study* (1988), *Kannada* (1990), and *Indina Kannada: Racane mattu Balake* (1995). Since 1995, Professor Sridhar has served as Chair of the Faculty Committee for Asian Studies, and in 1997, he organized the Center for India Studies. Germane to these interests, he co-edited a volume entitled *Ananya: A Portrait of India* (1997).

I extend my thanks to the many Stony Brook faculty members who have contributed to the establishment of the department and those who will contribute to its future development. I send special thanks to those who served on the Planning Committee chaired by Professor Mark Schneider and the Search Committee chaired by Professor David Hicks.

- Robert McGrath, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs