

THE ONLY NEWSPAPER OF STONY BROOK'S GRADUATE COMMUNITY

THE GRADUATE

Volume 1, Number 5, April 2004

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Happy Easter ! Happy Passover !

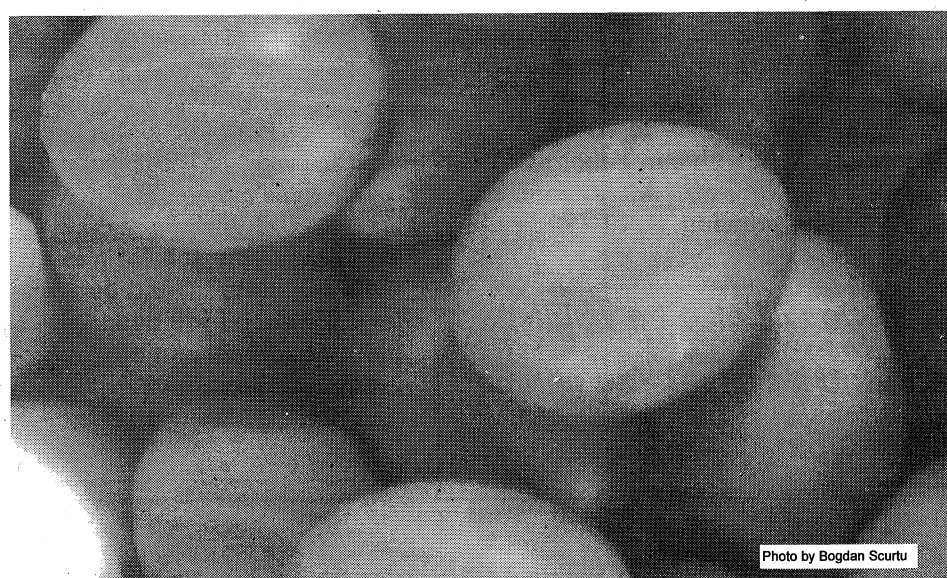


Photo by Bogdan Scurtu



Dr. Dean Martin changes Deadline Criteria for Doctoral Hooding

By Pegine Walrad

After revisiting the hooding ceremony's defense deadline, the Graduate Council voted unanimously to advise Graduate Dean Martin to remove it. Last month the GSO Senate approved an official request for the policy to be changed as well. In a quick response to graduate and faculty concerns, Dean Lawrence Martin has changed the deadline criteria to allow those Doctoral candidates defending their theses this summer to participate in this May's Hooding ceremony.

Below is his official announcement:

Rules for participation in Doctoral Graduation and Hooding Ceremony

Colleagues:

In response to concerns raised by faculty and students, the Graduate Council recently revisited the policy requiring that students must have successfully defended their doctoral dissertation prior to the graduation ceremony in which they participate.

They recommended a relaxation of the policy to allow students who will graduate with an August graduation date to be hooded at the prior May ceremony. This will make it easier for individuals who will move away from the area before the December graduation to participate.

For students who graduated in December 2003 (and did not get hooded at the Winter Graduation) and students who will graduate in May 2004 nothing needs to change in terms of their application to be hooded in May 2004. For students who will not have defended their dissertation by May 19, 2004 we will need a statement from each student's adviser, endorsed by the relevant graduate program director, that the student is on course to defend and to submit the final version of their dissertation in time to graduate with an August 2004 date.

I hope that this revised policy will make it easier for our graduates and their families to celebrate completion of their doctoral degrees.

Best,

Lawrence B. Martin, Ph.D.

Dean of the Graduate School,
Associate Provost for Analysis and Planning
Professor of Anthropology and of Anatomical Sciences
The Graduate School
Suite 2401, Computer Science Building
Stony Brook University, NY 11794-4433, U.S.A.
Tel. (631) 632 7035, Fax. (631) 632 7243
E-mail: Lawrence.Martin@stonybrook.edu

EDITORIAL

Here we are again: it's time for new GSO elections. We had a very tumultuous year in which we saw that not only the United States government can do politics, but politics can certainly happen in our humble Graduate Student Organization. Guofeng Hou, the president elected last year during this time was impeached in December by the GSO Senate; we had multiple treasurers, some of them who only served for a very short time "in office" and some members of last year's elected executives resigned. Everything culminated with the issue of the fee that supports our organization, which was made for a short time - optional. Not only there wouldn't be anymore money for RAP travel funds, or University Café, our newspaper, NYPIRG, the Volunteer Ambulance Corps, Child Care, graduate clubs, social events etc.; nobody should fool him/herself, if the activity fee is optional, as I am sure most of you know by know, it would lead to the dissolving of our Graduate Student Organization, since without economics, there is not much left for the politics. And yes, we're sure that very few graduates will pay the fee voluntarily, even if the activity fee amount is not so great.

But so far nothing announces the intense political struggle inside the GSO that we saw last year. "The Graduate" intended to present you all the candidates for executive positions for this year, or if too many, at least the ones who are running for president, in an equal amount of space for each candidate. By the nomination deadline, which is April 13th, our newspaper will be already out, so we cannot offer our readers any kind of information in regards to who will be running and what their "political platform" might be. By the time of our next issue, which will be the last one for this semester, we will already know the results of the elections, and we will be able to present you each new member of the executive board.

The elections will be held online (on the Solar system) starting on April 26th at 9:00am and ending on April 30 at 5:00pm. For more information, we are publishing on pages 3 and 6 the official rules of 2004-2005 elections and the description of the Execs duties, as they are noted in the GSO Constitution. For those of you, who for any reason will not be able to vote online, please read the instructions for voting by absentee ballot posted on this page. But please, be sure to vote one way or another, and make your voice heard. If you want to know the candidates, you can either see their campaign adds throughout the university, or meet them in person if they organize any events. Each candidate will have time to present themselves orally in the April Senate meeting (April 15th, 2004 between 6pm and 8pm, at the University Café in the Student Union).

Visit us online ! Starting with March 2004, every issue will also be published online. If you missed last month's issue, you can read it online. You can find us at <http://www.ic.sunysb.edu/Clubs/gso/news/news.html>

Instructions for voting by the absentee ballot

Put the ballot in an envelope and put your name, ID#, and Department on the envelope. No personal info should appear on the ballot itself. Any ballot that contains information not asked for on the ballot itself will be considered invalid.

The envelope should be stamped by the office manager and placed in the lock box in the GSO office. Only people with the key should be office managers.

Deadline for absentee ballots to be received by the GSO office is same as regular voting April 25 4 pm.

GSO is not responsible for the lost or damaged ballots due to the mailing problems.

No person is allowed to vote twice so if you voted on line do not vote by absentee ballot.

Advertise your job for free in "the graduate". Send us an email with the job description, deadlines and all the other details at nusnblus@ic.sunysb.edu

JOB BOARD

There are currently 2 jobs being offered for the 2004- 2005 academic year:

Graduate Assistant to work as Web developer

Graduate Assistants to work as Technical Support Specialists

The application deadline for both of them is April 30, 2004. For more information and description, see page 4.

Dear Readers,

While "the Graduate" has tried to accommodate the breadth and variety of the student population, it will be our constant endeavor to find new and exciting ways to cater to your special interests. Please feel free to give us your valuable comments and suggestions at nusnblus@ic.sunysb.edu. This is an open call to all graduate students to expose your talents and contribute any work of art to "the graduate". You may send your articles to nusnblus@ic.sunysb.edu or thegradnews@optonline.net if you want to send us larger files.

Editors, the Graduate

<p>Editor: Bogdan Scurtu</p> <p>Webmaster: Qing Ye</p> <p>Columnists: Pegine Walrad, JZ Bich,</p> <p>Contributors: Elizabeth Bojsza</p> <p>Special thanks to: J. R. Greene, David Lawton, The Graduate School</p>	<p>the Graduate office is located in SAC 226</p> <p>Mailing Address: GSO, SAC 226, Stony Brook University, NY 11794-2700</p> <p>Email: nusnblus@ic.sunysb.edu thegradnews@optonline.net</p> <p>Phone: 631 632 6493</p> <p>Messages: 631 632 6492</p>	<p>Fax: 631 632 8965</p> <p>If you are interested in advertising in the Graduate email nusnblus@ic.sunysb.edu, Attn. Ad or fax a request to 632 8965.</p> <p>Personals are published for free, commercial ads. Ads range from business card size (\$30) to the full page size, 8.5x11 (\$250)</p>	<p>the Graduate is a monthly publication and comes out on every second Wednesday of the month August-December and February-May.</p> <p>A total of 1500 copies is published and distributed throughout the Campus. On line version is available at www.ic.sunysb.edu/Clubs/gso</p>
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OUR REDACTION DOES NOT ASSUME ANY RESPONSIBILITY FOR ARTICLES WRITTEN BY ANY OF OUR COLLABORATORS. WE RECOGNIZE AND RESPECT THE FREEDOM OF SPEECH AS ONE OF THE BASIC PRINCIPLES OF DEMOCRACY, AND NO ARTICLE PUBLISHED IN OUR NEWSPAPER IS, WAS OR WILL BE CENSORED.

Election Committee

Chair of the Committee:

Venkat Reddy Pasham

Committee member:

Salih Kocer, Guofeng Hou,
Ming Ma, Javid Baig Shams

Non-voting member of Elections Committee:

Melissa Morahan (NYPIRG), Eric Bruzaitis (NYPIRG)

Elections Rules

GSO Elections 2004-2005

1. The deadline for submitting nominations for GSO officers for 2004-05 is Tuesday April 13th at 5:00 PM at the GSO office (SAC 227). The nomination needs to contain the form found on the GSO website with signatures from at least 25 GSO mem-

bers (they do not have to be from your Department) and a statement of no more than 100 words. If a statement is more than 100 words long it will be cut to be 100 words long. Please make sure you use the form in our website (http://www.ic.sunysb.edu/Clubs/gso/forms/officer_election.pdf). If the signatures do not fit in one nomination form, please use multiple copies of them. We do not accept any forms other than the nomination forms in the GSO website.

Please be advised that the nominations not following the above set guidelines WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

2. Note that you can only run for ONE of the four positions (President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer). The position of the Speaker is filled at the September Senate meeting. Only senators confirmed by that meeting are eligible for the position of

the Speaker.

3. The candidates should submit the nominations in a sealed envelope with a signature on the seal. Keep a copy of everything you turned in for your record. If you are submitting the nominations during the office hours, submit them to office manager. If you are not submitting them during the office hours just leave them under the door (GSO office SAC 227) and please check with office manager later confirm that he/she received your nomination. Please check the GSO office hours at <http://www.ic.sunysb.edu/Clubs/gso/aboutus/locate.html>.

4. The elections will be held online (on solar) starting on April 26th at 9:00am and ending on April 30 at 5:00pm.

6. The candidates cannot campaign at the GSO website, the GSO office (cannot put posters outside or inside

the office) and cannot have paper materials at the GSO senate (except their oral presentation). The candidates will have time to present themselves orally in the April Senate meeting (April 15th, 2004 between 6pm and 8pm). The amount of time that the candidates will have will depend on how many candidates run and will be determined when all the nominations are accepted and confirmed. The GSO office will be available to you in the case you need photocopies for posters for your campaign. You can only make up to 50 copies on the GSO copy machine. The office managers will make the photocopies for you. Candidates are advised to follow the University Conduct Code.

7. The results will be announced as soon as they are certified by the Elections Committee at the Senate list. They will be posted on the website and in the May issue of Graduate.

ARTICLE IV

from the GSO Constitution

Officers

The offices of the GSO shall be those of the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.

Section A: President

The President shall:

act as a spokesperson for the GSO in the presentation of its positions and enunciation of its policies; supervise the execution of Senate-approved legislation; appoint and remove members of all GSO and University committees, subject to confirmation by a majority vote of the Senate, over which the GSO holds power of appointment; nominate and recommend the removal of candidates, subject to confirmation by a majority vote of the Senate, for University committees over which the GSO holds no power of appointment chair meetings of the Executive Council; in conjunction with the current Executive Councils, conduct an open search and recommend a candidate to the Graduate School for the position of Graduate Student Advocate to serve in the following academic year. hire and remove the GSO Control & Disbursement (C&D) Agent, subject to a majority vote of the Senate.

Report at each Senate meeting a summary of her or his activities and such activities of the University Committees which may be of interest to GSO members;

has the power to interpret this Constitution at GSO Senate meetings. In the President's absence, this power devolves upon the Vice President, Secretary or Treasurer, in that order.

Section B: Vice President

The Vice President shall:

assist the President in the execution of her or his duties; fulfill the responsibilities and duties delegated to her or him by the President; chair the GSO Senate in the absence of the Speaker; chair the Social Concerns Committee;

report at each Senate meeting a summary of her or his activities which may be of interest to GSO members. Section C: Secretary

The Secretary shall:

record, publish, and report the minutes of Senate and Executive Council meetings; assist the President with the dissemination of GSO matters to the public; maintain and distribute a membership list of the Senate; chair the Election Committee; report at each Senate meeting a

summary of her or his activities which may be of interest to GSO members. Section D: Treasurer

The Treasurer shall:

chair the Budget Committee; be responsible for the management of all GSO revenues and expenditures, as detailed in the Budget Committee Bylaws; in conjunction with the Budget Committee, the Executive Council and future officers, prepare the organization's budget for the following academic year; provide an oral and written update on the state of GSO finances at least once every semester; report at each Senate meeting a summary of her or his activities which may be of interest to GSO members. Section E: Election, Removal and Succession of Officers

Candidates for office must be members of the GSO. The officers of the GSO shall be chosen in a membership-wide election held in the month of April, in accordance with the Elections Committee Bylaws. Candidates are elected by a plurality of all votes cast for the office. Should the membership-wide election result in a tie vote, the Senate shall vote to decide which of the candidates shall become President. Newly elected officers shall take office on July 1 and shall serve through June 30 of the following year. No member shall hold

more than one office at a time. The offices of the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer shall have two-term limits. Only individuals who are qualified to serve in the office of President may serve in the office of Vice President. An officer of the GSO may be removed from office for misconduct or neglect of duty, violation of the GSO Constitution or any actions contrary to the integrity of the graduate student community. The Board of Appeals shall function in an advisory capacity to investigate any allegations brought against an officer. The officer in question shall have the right to know the allegations brought against him or her. The Board of Appeals and the officer shall have the right to present their evidence before the Senate for a final decision. The Senate shall have the power to remove the officer by a two-thirds vote. The findings and recommendations of the Board of Appeals must be made in writing and made public at least ten days prior to the Senate vote.

If the office of the Vice President, Secretary or Treasurer is vacant, the President shall nominate a candidate for that office. The nomination shall be confirmed by a majority vote of the Senate. Should the nominee fail to be confirmed, the President may nominate another candidate.

(continued on page 6)

JOB BOARD

Assistantship Announcement

WEB DEVELOPER

The Office of Student Affairs seeks a student/graduate assistant Web developer for the 2004-05 academic year. The incumbent will be required to support 18 departmental websites and modify their content regularly. Successful candidates will be organized, self-starters with excellent communication skills and the ability to work independently.

Tasks include:

- o Hand-coding websites using HTML, DHTML, JSP, JSTL, XML/XSLT, and JavaScript
- o Developing code in a clean and consistent manner with proper supporting documentations
- o Assist in developing visual human interfaces utilizing user-centered design principles
- o Assist in designing and developing GUI screens for department's portal Development will include web-based forms interfaces.
- o Accurately estimating time on projects

Required Skills:

- o Excellent verbal and written communication skills
- o Possess 1-2 years of experience of web-based technologies to develop internal Web sites and some web applications within our Development team.
- o HTML, DHTML, XHTML, XML/XSLT, JSP, JSTL, SQL, CSS, JavaScript, Windows NT/2000/XP, and Java.

Preferred Skills:

- o Knowledge of Lotus Domino Database is preferred
- o Experience with Designing, testing, debugging, documenting application programs
- o Experience with Database driven applications, ability to write simple SQL statements and working knowledge on MS SQL Server.

This position provides excellent pay, starting at \$10/hr for undergraduate student assistant or the GSEU-negotiated stipend for graduate assistant (currently \$11,655).

Only full time graduate students are eligible for graduate assistantships. Graduate Assistantships do not provide tuition scholarship.

To apply, please e-mail a cover letter, resume, and the names and phone

numbers of three current professional references by April 30th to:

StudentAffairs@notes.cc.sunysb.edu

Interviews for qualified candidates will be scheduled via e-mail.

Assistantship Announcement

Technical Support Specialist

The Office of Student Affairs seeks student/graduate assistants to work as Technical Support Specialists for the 2004-05 academic year. The incumbent(s) will be responsible for supporting a large group of in-house PC's, as well as remote users using the phone and/or VPN connections. The individual will provide technical support for both PC and MAC users by relying on extensive experience and judgment to plan and accomplish goals efficiently. A wide degree of creativity and latitude is expected.

Required Skills:

- o Excellent verbal and written communication skills
- o Excellent interpersonal skills
- o Possess a minimum of 1-year technical support experience
- o Strong MS Office skills
- o Work effectively and efficiently both independently and in group situations

Strong troubleshooting/problem solving skills

Demonstrate ability to prioritize conflicting demands effectively

Expertise in Backup Applications, Windows XP Professional, Lotus Notes, Acrobat, Publisher, Photoshop, Illustrator, and QuarkXpress.

Preferred Skills:

- o Working knowledge on Lotus Notes mail client
- o Working knowledge on MAC computers

This position provides excellent pay, starting at \$10/hr for undergraduate student assistant or the GSEU-negotiated stipend for graduate assistant (currently \$11,655).

Only full time graduate students are eligible for Graduate Assistantships. Graduate Assistantship does not provide tuition scholarship.

To apply, please e-mail a cover letter, resume, and the names and phone numbers of three current professional references by April 30th to:

StudentAffairs@notes.cc.sunysb.edu

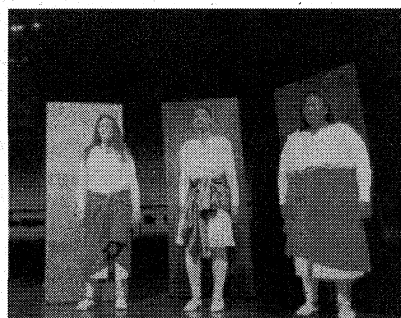
Interviews for qualified candidates will be scheduled via e-mail.

Stipends / Award

The total value of a Turner Doctoral Fellowship is at least \$100,000 over a five year academic period.

You will receive:

- Full Tuition Scholarship
- \$15,000 Annual Stipend for Ph.D. students, or \$10,000 Annual Stipend for Masters students
- Subsidized Health Insurance



All funded graduate students must apply for New York State residency during their first semester and must apply for the NYS Tuition Assistance Program after one year of New York State residence.

For doctoral candidates, five academic years of full support is guaranteed to students who make satisfactory academic progress in their original programs. Master of Fine Arts candidates will receive three years of full support, also subject to good academic progress. All other master's degree fellows are guaranteed two academic years of full support, provided there is satisfactory progress.

Becoming A Turner

Eligibility

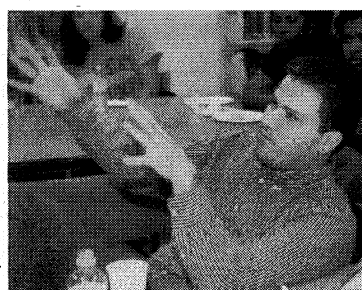
1. Candidate must be a citizen or permanent resident of the United States.
2. Candidate must be a member of one of the following underrepresented groups:
 - African American
 - Hispanic American
 - Native American
3. Candidate must be student of high academic promise who holds, or expects to receive by August of the initial Fellowship academic year, a bachelor's or masters degree from an accredited college or university.
4. Student currently enrolled in a masters program who desires to pursue a doctorate may also be nominated.
5. Candidate must be accepted into one of the eligible programs at Stony Brook prior to nomination.

"I chose Stony Brook primarily because of the strength and reputation of its engineering programs, and, particularly, its standing in the area of materials science. Having the honor of being a Turner Fellow at Stony Brook cemented my belief that Stony Brook was the best choice for me to pursue my doctoral studies."

Jhon F. Londono, Ph.D., 2001
Materials Science & Engineering

Conditions of Offer

The Turner Fellowship carries no obligation of service to the department or program. Turner Fellows in doctoral programs receive a Turner Fellowship stipend and a half-time (ten hours per week) appointment as a GA, RA, or TA. Because research is a component of graduate study, Turner Fellows may be involved in research projects that contribute directly to their degree objectives. Fellows are encouraged to present scholarly papers at national conferences. Fellows are also expected to meet regularly with their advisors to discuss academic progress and matters of mutual concern.



Four Stony Brook Faculty Members Named Distinguished Professors Casey, Fleagle, Howard, Schneider Are Honored by SUNY

STONY BROOK, N.Y., March 18, 2004 —The State University of New York Board of Trustees today announced the appointment of eight members of the State University faculty to the elite rank of Distinguished Professor. The rank of Distinguished Professor is the university's highest faculty designation.

Four of the professors are from Stony Brook University. They are Edward S. Casey, Professor, Department of Philosophy, John G. Fleagle, Professor, Department of Anatomical Sciences, Richard Howard, Professor, Department of Philosophy and Mark Schneider, Chair, Department of Political Science.

Appointment to the rank of Distinguished Professor is conferred upon individuals who have achieved national or international prominence and a celebrated reputation within a chosen field. This distinction is attained through significant contributions to the research literature or through artistic performance or achievement in the case of the arts.

The candidate's work must be of such character that the individual's presence will tend to elevate the standards of scholarship of colleagues both within and beyond the person's academic field. It must be of such quality that students and scholars on other campuses of the State University could and would wish to benefit by lectures and seminars or

other appropriate presentations the faculty member might bring to them.

"It is with great pleasure that the Board of Trustees appoints to the rank of Distinguished Professor eight of our most accomplished faculty," said Board Chair Thomas F. Egan. "These members of the University's faculty have achieved academic excellence of the highest level. They well reflect the superb quality of the State University of New York. It is a privilege to have them as members of the State University System."

"I would like to congratulate our faculty members on receiving this most prestigious designation of Distinguished Professor," said Chancellor Robert L. King. "Their talents and accomplishments in civil, structural and environmental engineering, microbiology, philosophy, anatomical sciences, political science and anthropology have brought their campuses and the entire university an enormous honor. For that I am extremely grateful and proud."

"The achievements of SUNY Distinguished Professors serve as hallmarks of academic excellence, professionalism, and tireless dedication," said State University Provost Peter D. Salins. "These talented individuals serve as vital role models to the young faculty following in their footsteps and to the students they interact with on a daily basis. We are most fortunate to count today's appointees among this very important group."

Those appointed to the rank of Distinguished Professor are:

* Philip Thomas LoVerde - State

University at Buffalo

* Barry Smith - State University at Buffalo

* Tsu-Teh Soong - State University at Buffalo

* Edward S. Casey - State University at Stony Brook

* John G. Fleagle - State University at Stony Brook

* Richard Howard - State University at Stony Brook

* Mark Schneider - State University at Stony Brook

* Mark N. Cohen - State University College at Plattsburgh

Edward S. Casey - Stony Brook, Department of Philosophy, is one of top six philosophers working in the field of continental philosophy and one of the foremost phenomenologists in the world today.

John G. Fleagle - Stony Brook, Department of Anatomical Sciences in the School of Medicine, is one of most outstanding scientists in the field of physical anthropology and is regarded as one of the most eminent primatologists and paleoprimatologists in the world.

Richard Howard - Stony Brook, Department of Philosophy, is one of the leading political philosophers in the world and an expert on the Anglo-American tradition of political thought whose works have exerted significant impact in the history of political thought here and abroad.

Mark Schneider - Stony Brook, Chair of the Department of Political Science, is a nationally eminent authority in the field of Political Science and among the top five urbanists and scholars of public policy currently engaged in research.

Mark N. Cohen - Plattsburgh, Department of Anthropology, is one of the leading figures in American anthropology and archeology and a pioneer in the field of prehistoric human nutrition and health.

Philip Thomas LoVerde - Buffalo, Associate Chair of Microbiology and Professor Pathology, is the world's leading authority on the molecular pathogenesis of schistosomiasis and one of the key players in international parasitology.

Barry Smith - Buffalo, Julian Park Professor of Philosophy, is internationally reputed as one of the most brilliant and creative scholars working in the field of applied ontology. He is the force behind some of the most revolutionary applications of analytic philosophy and ontology this century has witnessed in the emerging fields of informatics and geographic information sciences.

Tsu-Teh Soong - Buffalo, Samuel P. Capen Professor of Civil, Structural and Environmental Engineering in the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, is an internationally recognized authority in the field of engineering structural dynamics. Within this area, his primary research interests are in structural reliability and control and random vibration.

The State University of New York is the largest comprehensive university system in the United States educating nearly 410,000 students in 6,688 degree and certificate programs on 64 campuses.

Bishop Announces More Than \$1 Million In Grants To Stony Brook University

University Receives Four Peer-Reviewed Grants to Conduct Defense Research

Stony Brook, NY, March 22, 2004 — Congressman Tim Bishop today announced that Stony Brook University will receive four peer-reviewed research grants for more than \$1 million from the Department of Defense. The grants were awarded under the Defense University Research Instrumentation Program (DURIP). This program supports the

purchase of state-of-the-art equipment that augments current university capabilities or develops new university capabilities to perform cutting edge defense research.

"I am pleased to have supported this funding to assist the important work being done at Stony Brook University," Bishop said. "These

funds will allow our researchers at Stony Brook to make important advances to protect our national defense."

"Once again, it demonstrates the depth of expertise of our scientists at Stony Brook University," said Shirley Strum Kenny, President, Stony Brook University. "I'm proud of our researchers who successfully compete with the best in our nation."

DURIP meets a critical need by enabling university researchers to purchase scientific equipment costing \$50,000 or more to conduct DoD-

relevant research. The researchers generally have difficulty purchasing instruments costing that much under their research contracts and grants.

Nationwide, the program gave 213 awards to 92 academic institutions totaling \$43.5 million. With four grants, Stony Brook received the most grants of any university in New York State.

(continued on page 6)

...From the GSO Constitution
(continued from page 3)

If the office of President is vacant, the Vice President shall assume the office and nominate a new Vice President.

Should the offices of President and Vice President be vacant simultaneously, the Senate shall meet to elect a new President. Nominations shall be accepted from the floor and are open to any member eligible for the office in question.

The candidate receiving a majority of the votes cast shall be elected and shall assume the office immediately. If the Senate vote fails to provide a clear majority, a run-off election shall be held between the two candidates with the highest number of votes.

ARTICLE V

Senate

The legislative power of the GSO shall be vested in the Senate.

Section A: Duties and Powers of the GSO Senate.

The Senate shall establish policies and procedures of the GSO.

Each Senator shall have the right to 1 vote on all matters which come before the Senate, except when a conflict of interest exists, or when prohibited by law.

Senators may not vote by proxy.

Alternate Senators may vote in the absence of the primary Senator(s).

A quorum shall consist of 25% of the total number of currently certified GSO Senators, or 8 certified Senators, whichever is greater. Except where stipulated in the GSO

Budget Committee Bylaws, the Senate shall have sole authority over the allocation of GSO funds. The passage of an subsequent amendments to the GSO annual budget shall require a two-thirds vote.

Budgetary allocations recommended by the Budget Committee shall require a majority vote.

Section B: Meetings of the GSO Senate

The Senate shall meet at least once every month, except during intercession periods.

Emergency meetings of the Senate must be convened upon the request of either 2 voting members of the Executive Council or 8 Senators. Senate meetings are open to all GSO members and are to be publicly announced at least 1 week in advance.

Votes of the Senate shall be open to the public.

Section C: Speaker of the Senate

The Speaker of the Senate:

shall be chosen from among the Senators at the beginning of each academic year by a majority vote of the Senate; in the event of a vacancy, the Senate shall elect a new Speaker; may be removed by two-thirds vote of the Senate; upon election, must relinquish Senatorial status; shall chair the GSO Senate and have the power to interpret rules of order at Senate meetings; shall be a member of the Executive Council; shall chair the Rules and Constitution

Committee. Section D: GSO External Representative

The GSO External Representative:

must be a member of the GSO shall be nominated by the President, and confirmed by the Senate at the beginning of each academic year by a majority vote of the Senate; in the event of a vacancy, a new GSO External Representative shall be nominated and confirmed; may be removed from this position upon recommendation of the President and majority vote of the Senate;

represent the GSO at functions external to the Stony Brook campus.
Section E: Election, Tenure and Removal of Senators

Each department or school shall elect its own Senator(s) with the following restriction:

a) The election must reflect the informed consent of the constituency. All departments shall demonstrate informed consent through an organized departmental election. Should an election not take place, all departments shall demonstrate informed consent through the department-wide advertising of the Senate position(s) and the presentation of a petition signed by at least 30% of the department's registered graduate students. The departments of Continuing Education (CED) and the School of Professional Development (GSP) Senator(s) shall demonstrate informed consent through the presentation of a petition signed by at least 5% or fifty (50) of the program's reg-

istered number of students, whichever is less.

b) All Senators will be required to submit their credentials to the Secretary for certification according to the GSO Election Committee Bylaws. Should there exist a question of legitimacy for a Senatorial election, the Executive Council shall oversee the resolution of the disputed election within the department.

A department may elect 1 alternate Senator, according to the same guidelines established above, who may fulfill the duties of the Senator(s) when she or he is unable to attend a GSO Senate meeting.

Departments or schools belonging to the GSO with less than 50 students shall be allotted 1 Senator; those having between 50 and 200 students shall be allotted 2 Senators; those having greater than 200 students shall be allotted 3 Senators.

The term of a Senator shall be from September 1st to August 31st (of the following year).

A Senator may be removed from office by means of a petition signed by a majority of the Senator. Two (2) months before the end of their term, a Senator must post, both within their department as well as the GSO office, a call for nominations for new Senators. If a sitting Senator runs unopposed, they may renew their position for a second term by notifying their department and the GSO Senate of their intent; otherwise, normal election procedures must be followed.

UNPREDICTABLE MUSIC

Unpredictable Music welcomes you back from Spring Recess with a fresh assortment of new local and regional acts beginning this week with Stony Brook's own Lawrence Mesich. Please join us from 5 to 7 this Wednesday as Lawrence explores the seedier aspects of behavioral investigation -- all on stage right before your very ears.

Unpredictable Music is an ongoing concert series that features a number of guest artists both from in and around the New York area as well as many artists from within the Stony Brook community. Concerts are held

every Wednesday this semester from 5 pm to 7 pm at the University Cafe. Please come and be a part of these very exciting events. It is important that we all show our enthusiasm for these types of events in order to keep the series going. All events are free and open to the public, but donations at the door are encouraged. Because alcohol is served, there is an age limit of 21. We look forward to seeing you there.

NEXT WEEK: Very Special Guest
Eva Sjuve - gestural control interfaces using Max/MSP
Wednesday, April 21st
5pm - University Cafe

... Bishop Announces More Than \$1 Million In Grants To Stony Brook University

(continued from page 5)

The grants were given to the following studies:
Instrumentation of Monochromatic X-Ray Side-Station for Melt Property Study: Dr. Jihua Chen, Mineral Physics Institute, \$420,500
High Temperature Micro/Nanomechanics System for Fatigue Study of Materials: Dr. Fu-Pen Chiang, Mechanical Engineering, \$325,000
Scalable Heterogeneous Supercomputer Built with Commodity Components: Dr. James Glimm,

Applied Math & Statistics, \$100,000
Coherent Control of Atomic and Molecular Dynamics: Dr. Harold Metcalf, Physics & Astronomy, \$190,000

Bishop voted to support the program as part of the Fiscal Year 2004 Department of Defense Appropriations bill, which provided \$368.7 billion in defense spending, a \$4 billion increase over the previous fiscal year. Bishop voted in favor of the final version of the bill, which passed the House on September 24, 2003

**Stony Brook Opera
at Staller Center presents**
Handel's *Aggripina*

*Fully staged and sung in Italian with projected
English titles*

*Stony Brook Symphony and Baroque Ensemble
conducted by David Lawton*

**Friday, April 16
8:00 pm**

**Sunday, April 18
2:00 pm**

Tickets

\$20

\$10 Students
and Senior
Citizens

Free pre-opera
lectures by
Professor Sarah
Fuller one hour
before each
performance.

To order tickets or for
more information,
call (631) 632-ARTS
or visit stallercenter.com

*David Lawton, Conductor
Ron Luchsinger, Stage Director
Yoshi Tanokura, Set Designer
Sara Iams, Costume Designer
Scott Borowka, Lighting Designer
Karin Lynn, Hair and Make-up Artist*

Sculpture photograph © 2002, René Seindal

AA/LDL



Stony Brook Opera and Stony Brook Symphony to present
Handel's Agrippina
Fully Staged Opera
Staller Center Main Stage
April 16 at 8 pm and 18 at 2 pm

On Friday April 16 at 8 pm, and Sunday April 18 at 2 pm, Long Island residents will have the opportunity to experience a professionally staged opera close to their doorsteps when Stony Brook Opera and the Stony Brook Symphony Orchestra will present a fully staged production of George Frideric Handel's Agrippina (1709) at the Staller Center for the Arts at Stony Brook. With this production Stony Brook Opera begins a new three-year cycle that includes one Baroque opera, one contemporary opera, and a standard work. The most recent cycle included the world premiere of Sheila Silver's The Thief of Love, Monteverdi's L'incoronazione di Poppea, and Mozart's ever popular Don Giovanni.

Agrippina premiered in Venice in 1709 and was the first great success of Handel's career, establishing him overnight as one of the foremost composers of Italian opera. An opera in three acts, it will be sung in Italian with projected titles in English.

David Lawton, Professor of Music and a well-known opera conductor, will conduct the Agrippina production, which will feature innovative staging and design concepts. Ron Luchsinger, Director of Production for Opera North (New Hampshire), who directed Stony Brook Opera's highly successful productions of Mozart's Don Giovanni last season and Monteverdi's L'incoronazione di Poppea in 2002, returns as Stage Director. Designer Yoshiro Tanokura, whose credits include Opera North,

Anchorage Opera, and Glimmerglass Opera, comes back as Set Designer. Scott Borowka makes his Stony Brook Opera debut as Lighting Designer, and Sarah Iams, who designed the costumes for The Thief of Love in 2001, returns as Costume Designer. Karin Lynn, a Stony Brook Opera regular, is the hair and make-up artist.

Notes Dr. Lawton, "We truly have an international cast in our production: Canadian soprano Kathleen Flynn, Chinese soprano Jing Huang, Romanian soprano Mihaela Buhaiciuc, American mezzo-soprano Kara Cornell, Korean mezzo-soprano Myeongsook Lee, Swiss baritone Valentin Lanzrein, American baritone Lars Woodul, and Brazilian bass Orival Bento-Gonçalves. The cast members are all advanced graduate voice majors studying with Stony Brook Performing Artists in Residence Elaine Bonazzi and Chris Pedro Trakas." The singers hail from prestigious schools—Julliard and Mannes School of Music among them—and are already pursuing successful international opera careers.

Mezzo-soprano Kathleen Flynn (Agrippina) has been hailed as one of Canada's most exciting young mezzos, performing a repertoire spanning five centuries and in locales from Japan to Aldeburgh. The New Yorker called hers a "lush mezzo-voice and hidden reserves of power." Soprano Jing Huang (Poppea) sang the leading soprano role in a Chinese contemporary opera at the Lincoln Center Festival in 2002, among many other national and international performances. Soprano Mihaela Buhaiciuc (Nero) performed many leading roles in her native Romania and in the United States. Mezzo-soprano Myeongsook Lee (Otho) last appeared with Stony Brook Opera in

2002, as the Empress Octavia in Monteverdi's L'incoronazione di Poppea. Bass Orival Bento-Gonçalves (Claudius) has enjoyed great success in his native Brazil and in the United States on the opera and concert stages performing in such operas as Macbeth, Don Giovanni, Don Pasquale, Tosca, A Midsummer Night's Dream, and many others. Mezzo soprano Kara Cornell (Narcissus) has performed with the Opera Theater of Pittsburgh, The Pittsburgh Camerata, The Opera Theater of Lucca, Italy, and The Bay View Music Festival. Baritone Valentin Lanzrein (Pallas) makes his Stony Brook Opera debut with this production. Baritone Lars Woodul (Lesbo) has sung with Opera Northeast, Metro Lyric Opera, Springfield Regional Opera, Israel Vocal Arts Institute, and Nevada Opera.

About Agrippina

Agrippina, which premiered in Venice in 1709, was such an enormous success that it played for 27 performances on successive nights, and had several important revivals elsewhere in Europe during Handel's lifetime. Recent modern revivals of Agrippina in such regional American companies as Glimmerglass Opera, Chicago Opera Theater, and New York City Opera have played to sold-out houses with rave reviews.

Cardinal Vincenzo Grimani's libretto for Agrippina is based upon ancient Roman history, as related by the Roman historians Tacitus (Annals) Suetonius (The Life of Claudius). The opera takes place during the reign of the Emperor Claudius (41-54 A.D.), and is concerned primarily with the intrigues of Claudius' second wife Agrippina to ensure that her son Nero is named successor to the

Imperial throne. Handel authority Winton Dean has written: "for sheer freshness of musical invention, and Handel's obvious delight in exploring the opportunities for dramatic irony presented by a set of two-faced characters and a cunningly devised plot, Agrippina has few rivals."

In the opera Agrippina is willing to go to any length to make sure that her son Nero, who was not the legitimate heir to the throne, will succeed Claudius. When Claudius is rumored to have drowned at sea, she promises both Narcissus and Pallas separately that she will marry them if they support Nero's succession. After Claudius returns alive, she turns both Poppea and Claudius against Otho, although Otho is betrothed to Poppea and has saved Claudius' life at sea. At the same time that Agrippina is scheming on behalf of Nero, Poppea, after realizing that Otho is innocent, deceives Nero and Claudius, both of whom are in love with her. To quote Winton Dean again, "Agrippina is much more than a farcical opera buffa. The situations are full of humor, but for the most part the characters are motivated by strong, even passionate impulses. As in all the greatest comedies, there is an undertow of profound commitment."

Tickets for Agrippina are \$20 general, \$10 for students and senior citizens and are available at the Staller Center Box Office. There will be free pre-opera lectures by Stony Brook Professor of Music Sarah Fuller in the Recital Hall one hour before the performance (7 pm on Friday April 16, and 1 pm on Sunday April 18). For tickets call (631) 632-ARTS or online at www.stallercenter.com. For more information call the Department of Music at (631) 632-7330.

Cabaret Calendar

by Elizabeth Bojsza

The Cabaret's production of Ephemera at the Wang Center March 25-27th was tremendously successful! If it is any indication of what else the Cabaret has in store for us this semester, you have to catch these world premieres (see the Cabaret website at www.sunysb.edu/clubs/cabaret/ for more info and directions):

Breakfast with Hank by Carrie O'Dell directed by Timothy C. Browne
This new play examines a mutually
THE GRADUATE 8

abusive addictive relationship-with omelettes, English muffins, and a bottomless pot of coffee.

April 15-17 @ Fannie Brice Theater, Roosevelt Quad, 8pm
General Admission \$3

The Great American Smokeout by Heather Honnold
In this witty one-woman show the crossroads of America meet in an airport smoking lounge. A guaranteed laugh.

April 29-May 1 @ Fannie Brice Theater, Roosevelt Quad, 8pm
General Admission \$3

Check out these theatre department shows as well!

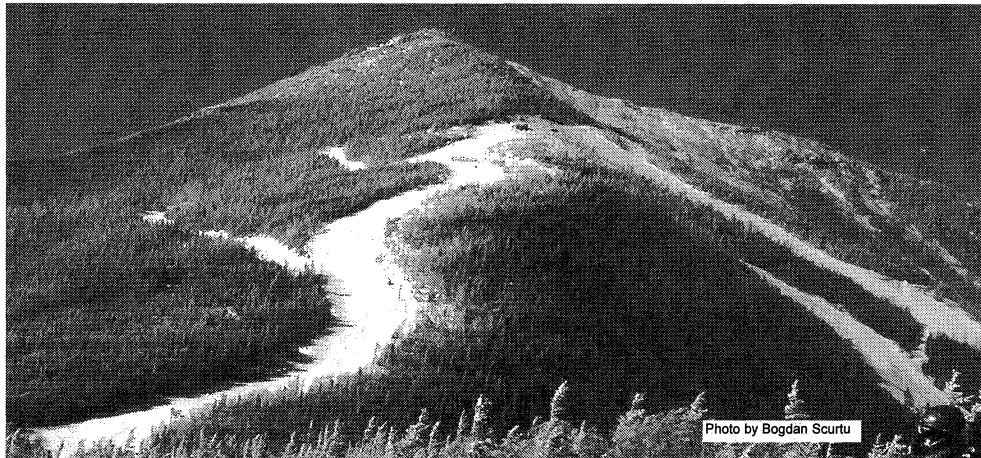
When All Is Said and Done presented by The Sullivan Dance Project
An evening of Dance and Physical Theatre.
April 15-17 @ 8 pm, April 18 @ 2 pm, Theater One, Staller Center for the Arts
Community/Faculty/Staff \$10, Students and Seniors \$5

Under Pressure, the senior project of the '04 graduating class
A youthful collection of edgy-one acts.

April 22-25 @ Theater Two, Staller Center for the Arts, 8pm
General Admission \$10, Faculty/Staff \$8, Students \$6

Closer by Patrick Marber
Sex, lies, and the internet. Four lives intertwine over the course of four and a half years in this densely plotted, stinging look at modern love and betrayal.
April 30-May 2 @ Theater Three, Staller Center for the Arts
General Admission \$5, Students \$3

Adirondack Weekend Trip Budget Planner



There are several ways of spending some time in the Adirondacks and certainly organizing an individual/small group trip is not the best way to visit the mountains. The Adirondacks are full of summer and winter camps for kids of different ages, and the best way to spend some time in the mountains is working at one of these camps. If you just want to enjoy some time there and not to do any work, you can find some package deals at your travel agency. This guide is intended only for those who want to plan a trip to

the Adirondacks with a small group of friends or with the significant other etc. during a weekend. If this is the case, our recommendation for you is to plan spending at least three days in the mountains, including the trip from Stony Brook to Lake Placid and back, which will allow you to relax at least one full day there.

1. Travel

a. By Greyhound bus: New York City - Lake Placid : 7 hours each way, \$ 126 per person round-trip

b. By Amtrak: New York City - Lake Placid: 7 hours each way, \$ 132 per person round-trip

c. By car: Stony Brook - Lake Placid: 6 hours continuous drive each way, approx. \$ 40 per car round trip (depending on your car's mpg) plus following tolls:

i. Through NYC: \$ 18 each way

ii. Through Bridgeport (by ferry): \$.51 per car each way (unlimited passengers) or \$ 37 (w. driver only)

are plenty cottages, motels and hotels with pretty decent prices in the area. They cost usually anywhere between \$ 35 to \$ 80 per night, depending on the level of comfort sought. For extra luxury and extra money - try the Lake Placid hotels. Look for a hotel/motel which has at least breakfast included. Otherwise, you will have to eat at restaurants which might turn up to be quite expensive, but not more than the Long Island restaurants. McDonalds or other popular fast-food restaurants are very rare in the Lake Placid area; you can find them especially in Saranac Lake.

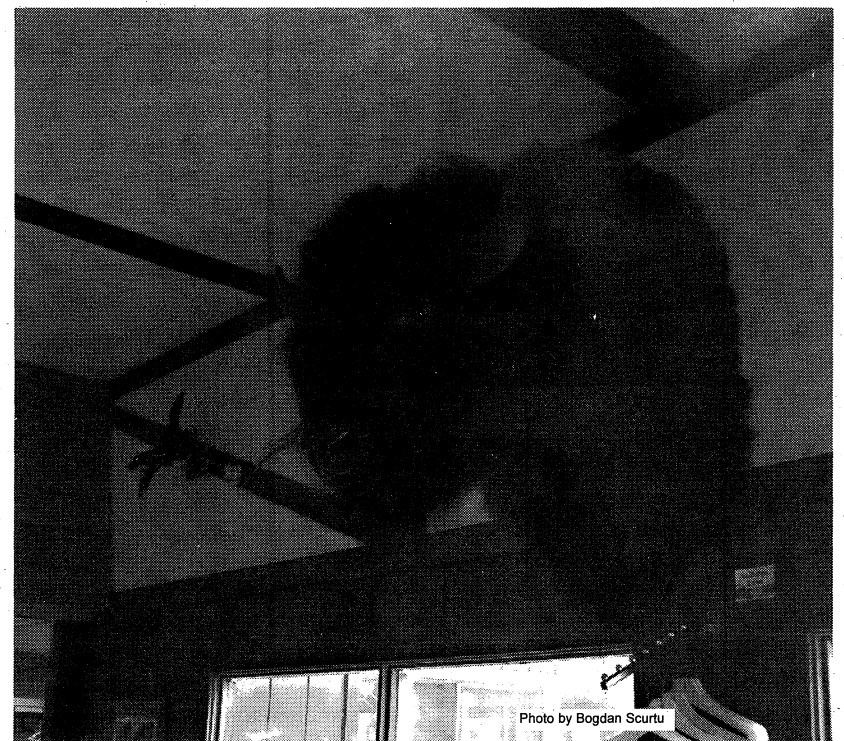
3. Attractions



d. By airplane: don't even consider it; the only fare we were able to find for New York - SLK (Saranac/Lake Placid) was over \$ 1000

The Adirondacks have plenty of attractions and fun activities for any season. Depending on your interest, and the season, you could spend up to \$ 50 - 100 for skiing, snowmobiling etc. in the winter and hiking, kayak-

2. Lodging and meals



Besides being very expensive, hotels in Lake Placid are pretty full in weekends, so the best idea is to look for some accommodation in the nearby towns (you need a car for this). There

ing, horse riding and pretty much almost any of your favorite mountain activity - in the summer.

From New York to Boston for \$ 10

Yes, \$ 10 is the cheapest fare you can pay for a trip from New York to Boston with the now famous Fung Wah bus. The trip takes 4 hours and sometimes there is no stop between New York and Boston. The bus leaves from Chinatown New York (Manhattan) and goes to the Chinatown from Boston, and you could take it back the same day, for the same cheap amount.

There are many ethnic immigrant communities in main US cities which are linked by cheap buses like the Orthodox Jews, the Haitians, but the Chinese buses are the most well-known and are becoming more and more popular. We don't know which of the companies that run these buses are legally OK, but the most popular Chinese buses definitely have approval from the Federal Highway Administration and from the U.S. Department of Transportation. And most of these bus companies have their own web-sites where you can buy the tickets from, and make reservations.

Although there are several companies operating buses between the

Chinatown in New York and Chinatown in Boston, Fung Wah is the most well-known. We interviewed some of the people who actually took the bus to Boston. No, you don't have to be Chinese in order to take the bus and in fact, several people confirmed the same thing: Fung-Wah is so popular, that the only Chinese in the bus was ... the driver.

If you want to know more about the buses and to buy tickets, please visit the web-sites of the companies:

Fung Wah Bus links NYC, Boston, Providence: www.fungwahbus.com
Travel Pack USA/Lucky Star Bus links NYC and Boston: www.travel-packusa.com, www.luckystarbus.com
Sunshine Travel links NYC, Mohegan Sun and Boston: www.sunshine-boston.com

Boston Deluxe links NYC, Boston and Hartford: www.bostondeluxe.com
New Century Travel links NYC, Philadelphia and Washington D.C.: www.2000coach.com

For other connections and even for travel packages, please go to <http://www.ivymedia.com/>

Groxis improving more: Better than Google

SAN JOSE, Calif., - Search Engine Strategies Conference & Expo - Groxis, Inc., a leader in visual information software technology, announced the general availability of Embedded Grokker, the latest version of Grokker, an innovative software product that helps organizations to better access, organize and deliver information to Mac and PC users. Embedded Grokker enables web sites, search engines, enterprises, and other organizations to integrate Grokker technology into a Web site, providing the first ultra-thin client version of the award-winning product. Groxis announced the product today in San Jose at the Search Engine Strategies Conference & Expo.

Since first previewing its technology in October 2002, Groxis has received accolades from industry watchers, product reviewers, and customers. The enterprise product brings the technology to a wide range of applications enterprise and e-commerce settings. At DEMO 2003, the prestigious emerging-technology conference, Groxis received a DEMOGod™ Award for the first major preview of its client-based product, Grokker Desktop. Embedded Grokker promises to bring the power and benefits of Grokker technology to larger universe of potential users who can now use Grokker over the Web on search engines, corporate extranets and intranets, and public-sector and educational databases such as libraries, medical information portals, etc.

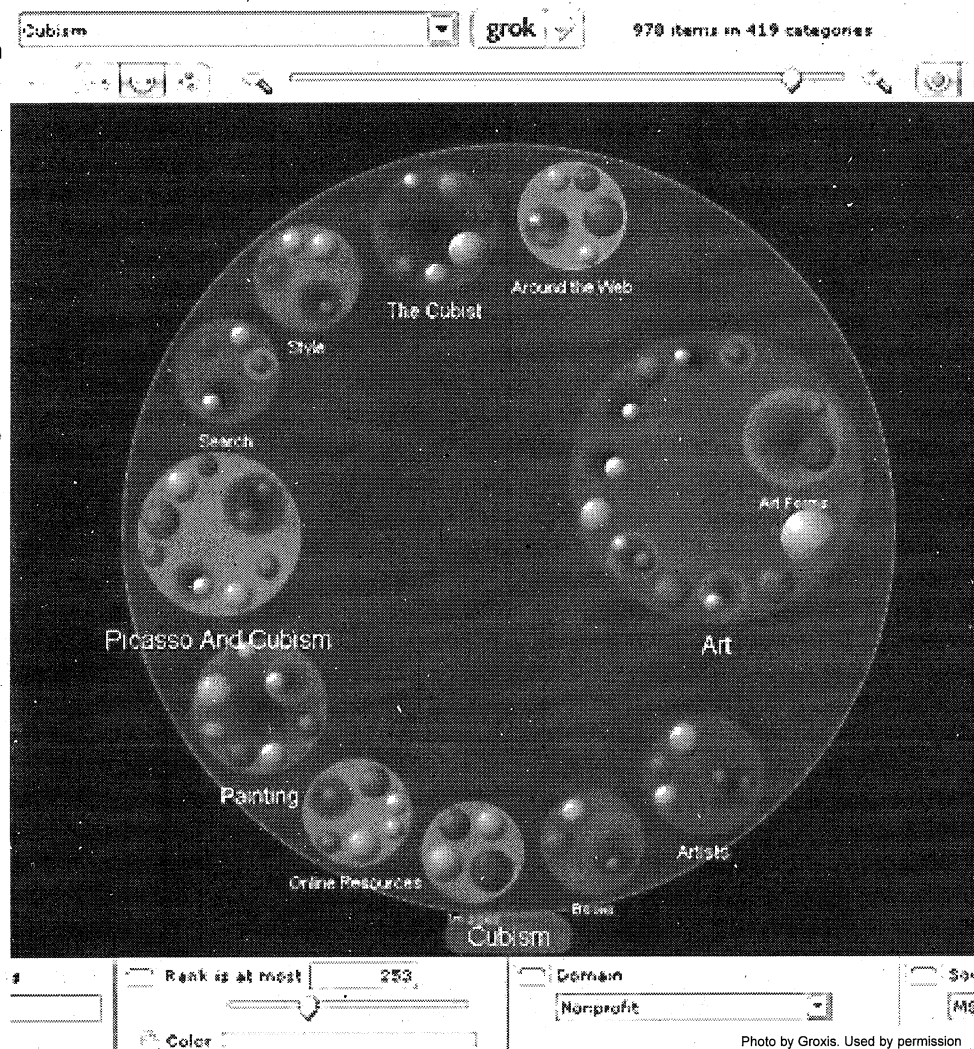
"Embedded Grokker will introduce our core technology to a significantly larger world of users," said R.J.

Pittman, CEO and co-founder of Groxis. "Search engines, e-businesses, and other groups now have an easy way to integrate Grokker into their Web sites. For organizations with large, complex, and changing user audiences, the product is an easy, cost-effective way to make their content available with one of the most novel and effective information-management technologies on the market today."

Core Visualization Technology Is Now Available in the Browser Grokker builds precise and detailed graphical content maps from a wide-ranging selection of both Internet-wide and enterprise-wide online information sources. These maps can now be accessed from a more universal medium, the Web browser.

With Embedded Grokker, the software is integrated into a Web site as a simple browser-based application. Embedded Grokker uses the core Grokker technology to turn thousands of pieces of information -- for example, search results -- into a simple, graphical map. These embedded maps are filterable, customizable and can be saved and shared. A visitor to a Web site can perform a search, reorganize the Grokker map, and then save it and mail it to a friend or colleague,

called Grokker™. The Grokker software makes information research easy, intuitive, and sensible. One software platform for every person,



who can reopen the map on the originating site.

Unlike Google, Groxis is a software which costs about \$ 49, but can be trialed for free from their website at <http://www.grokker.com/>.

Groxis is a pioneer in visual information software technology and the creator of the first breed of Graphical Information Interface (GII) software

profession, and pursuit. Grokker information maps are an innovative information currency that radically improves the way people, groups, and organizations discover, organize, and convey large amounts of information. A privately held company backed by leading venture investors, Groxis is based in Sausalito, California.

GOOGLE TO OFFER LEADING EMAIL SERVICE

Google announced more than a week ago a new free email service intended to take over the market from leading free email providers like Yahoo and Hotmail. Gmail from Google will offer for free 1 gig of space for every email box (Yahoo offers 6 megs and Hotmail only 2 megs). Like Yahoo and Hotmail, the new Gmail will fund itself from advertisements. But still, how can they

offer so much space? Well, Google will do what it can best do: search.

The new email service will scan every email for keywords and will sell the information to advertisement companies. For example, let's say you're emailing your friend about an upcoming concert. You will have the pleasure (or annoyance) of getting in your email several emails advertising for concert ticket sales. To much bulk

to handle? At 1 gig of space, it doesn't matter, or does it?

Our question: let's say I write in an email something like: "man, I drove last night as fast as I could my new BMW, I had over 100 miles per hour". What's going to happen, will Google bomb my mailbox with advertisements from Driver Improvement Courses? or will I get a speeding ticket directly in the mail?

Apparently I'm not the only one concerned with this issue, and several groups in Europe started protesting Google's not-even-launched-yet email service for invading of privacy.

In Europe, communication laws are much stricter than those in the US, and the citizen has guaranteed the right of private communications, without Big Brother sticking his nose into his life. But Google says no human will ever read any emails, but emails will be scanned by computer only. Ya right, big relief!

Although it has not been released to the public, Google email is up and running for tests and selected users only. You can check out the dates of the official release and the look of the new email service at www.gmail.com

Laugh-a-bit

What do they say after they just had sex:

Aries - Ok, let's do it again.

Taurus - I'm hungry, pass me the pizza.

Gemini - Have you seen the TV remote control ?

Cancer - When did you say we're getting married ?

Leo - Say this wasn't awesome !

Virgo - Ya, and I have to launder the bed-sheets now.

Libra - I liked it because you liked it.

Scorpio - Maybe I should untie you first ...

Sagittarius - Don't call me, I'll call you.

Capricorn - Do you have a business card ?

Aquarius - Let's do it now without clothes

Pisces - Now what was your name again ?

- How many types of bosses are there ?

- Little boss, big boss and Scare Boss

A movie director speaks with his favorite actress:

- If you will listen to me, we will have an Oscar

- But if it's a girl, how will we name her ?

A hot young lady asks James Bond what's the time. He answers bored:

- Five. Five to for.

- What's James Bond's favorite drink ?

- Viagra Martini: for when he's shaken, not stirred.

Weird News

The War of Notes

The 16 violin players from "Beethoven" Symphonic Orchestra based in Berlin, Germany, sued the management to get a raise because they have to play more notes than their colleges who play the flute, the oboe or the trombone. "It's absurd" said the director of the orchestra, saying that it's not reasonable to compare the playing of a certain musical instrument with others.

Gustav, the hero

A pigeon belonging to the British Royal Airfare, who brought the news of the Allied victory in Normandy, in the Second World War, will be awarded as the most brave pigeon that served his country. Gustav, a gray pigeon with the code name NPS.42.31066 fought during his mission with a wind of 50 miles per hour, and the sun (the pigeons "GPS service") was completely hidden by the clouds that day. Gustav carried

his message 170 miles away, to Portsmouth, in 5 hours and 16 minutes. He was decorated with the Dickin Medal, the equivalent for animals of the Victoria distinction, the highest military decoration. Unharmd by bullets and by bad weather, the pigeon died when a housekeeper mistakenly stepped on him.

Good Driver

A 86 years old Swiss driver from Bern who was driving in the opposite lane on a highway ended his race in a unexpected way: he pulled over voluntarily when he saw a cop ... to complain that everybody drives in the wrong direction ! Even more, the man told police he signaled six other drivers, to warn them they are on the wrong side of the highway.

Stony Love

by J Z Bich

Hay JZiers out there, I hope you all had a fun and sexy Spring Break and are ready to apply yourselves to the studies here at SBU. Yours truly had a stressful and tense midterm season. So, I decided to reward myself for being such a good little girl and have a bad girl Spring Break. I hope the rest of you followed my example and indulged in various carnal pleasures. If not, you still have time... But let's turn to cyberspaces this month. It seems, the cold weather kept some of you at home and busy.

Dear JZ,
I am writing to you in distress. I don't know what to do. I met this couple on line and they want me to visit them and have sex with them. They live in Connecticut so it is hard for us to meet casually if I don't plan to stay with them. I cannot invite them here because I have roommates and don't want them to know about this. The couple see,s nice. They are my age (mid twenties) and I saw their picture and they seem cute. I guess, my

question is, is this a good idea? I have never done something like this and curious but afraid safety wise. Thanks,
Cyber Punk Ready

Dear CPR,
I will as always advise caution. Make sure that you have these people home phone number and make sure you check that it is their number. You can go to reverse phone books on line and search the name by the number, or just look them up the old fashioned way. Further, I would suggest you to meet them somewhere outside for a coffee or dinner before you decide to have sex, simply because you might not like them in person as much as you do on line (ah, the beauties of fantasy can turn into ugly ducklings in reality). Yes, they live far away, but Connecticut is not that far and perhaps you could all meet in NYC. Make sure to set parameters of what you are willing to do before you meet for sex. Finally, if you decide to go ahead with this (as you should if it all seems fun and

safe), make sure to leave their info to your best friend and make sure the couple knows you left their info with someone. If they are sane and safe people they won't mind. If they mind, that may be a good time to leave.
-JZ

Dear JZ,
I am a married woman from a foreign country. I go to school here with my husband. I never cheated on my husband but he is always busy with school and I am very lonely. I don't want to find another man. I spend a lot of time on line chatting with my friends at home. A few days ago, a guy contacted me to talk. I don't know him. I talked to him and we ended up talking about sex. I was so turned on. I felt very guilty later when my husband came home. Was this cheating? Should I tell my husband? He is very jealous and old fashioned and I think he would leave me for this. Divorce is very uncommon in my country and I would be so embarrassed if something like that happened. I am desperate but what is even worse I want to go on line again and look for my secret lover.
Lonely Wife

Dear LW,

I do not believe cyber sex or cyber flirting to be cheating anymore than I would consider watching porn, going to a strip club or reading a sexy novel cheating. However, I also do not think that replacing real life sex pleasures completely with the cybered ones is a great plan either. If you are not sexually happy with your married life, you might want to try to talk to your husband about that. Perhaps you can suggest to him to think of ways to spice it up and maybe even recommend going on line together and looking at some things. Telling your husband that you want to make him and yourself happier in bed sounds much better than telling him you have a cyber lover. Lastly, if you are generally happy with your sex life, supplementing it with an occasional on line adventure, visit to a strip joint and other kinds of fantasies, can only help your overall feeling of sanity. Healthy imaginary life leads to a healthy real life. So spice it up girlfriend and don't stress out,
-JZ

Lexus Unveils Luxury Sports Coupe Concept

Third in a Series that Reflects Company's New Design Direction



Photo by Toyota Inc. Used by permission

Lexus introduced its third new concept design within a year when it unveiled the LF-C luxury sports coupe concept car at the New York International Auto Show today. The LF series of concept vehicles is designed to define and launch an entirely new direction in styling for the Lexus brand. The LF-C provides a hint of the direction Lexus is considering for the next generation IS 300 sports car.

"Design is among the most important differentiating factors between any two products and the LF-C expands the current IS 300 sport sedan into a new category previously not addressed in the Lexus lineup," said Lexus Group Vice President and General Manager Denny Clements. "The LF-C concept is designed to target an extremely young, affluent buyer with a strong element of surprise."

The surprise is provided by stylists from the Calt Design Research Center in the form of a 4-position retractable hardtop in the LF-C. The

unique hardtop design allows the car to transform itself at the touch of a button from a coupe to a convertible, to a targa or to a speedster, depending on the driver's mood. The powered top stows neatly into the trunk through a surprisingly minimal rear-deck opening.

A large rear wheel drive platform utilizes a high-output, front-mounted V8 engine with a six-speed sequential automatic transmission as the basis and motivating force for the LF-C. With an expanded wheelbase of 5.1 inches, the LF-C is only slightly longer overall than the current IS 300. Significantly, the LF-C sits about 2.0 inches lower and is nearly five inches wider than the current IS 300. The broad stance and short overhangs strike an aggressive pose with ample dimensions to comfortably accommodate four adult passengers.

"We used a combination of convex and concave surfaces to control the balance of light and shadow on the car which creates this beautiful contrast of having sharp lines within the

sculpted exterior surfaces," said Kevin Hunter, vice president of Calt Design Research, Inc. "The idea was to create a sense of strength and softness at the same time, adding an air of mystery."

Calt used long, integrated lines to simplify the overall form of the LF-C. The distinctive roof rail tapers as it moves forward from the rear, mimicking the sculpted theme of the main body. The extreme tapering of the main body shape from front to rear, which is then wrapped and interlocked by the rear fenders, is designed to show strength and power from every angle.

The interior communicates performance with drive-by-wire steering and Formula One inspired shifter and steering wheel with the gauges stacked along the steering column axis, ascending toward the base of the windshield. The gauges are transparent, with needles moving from the ring, rather than the center.

A dynamic and flowing center console, in a solid tapered form, runs the

console is flanked on each side by arched, wing-like instrument panels situated low in front of the driver and passenger to create a feeling of openness.

Four lightweight individual bucket seats use slender shapes inspired by modern stemware to create a contrast of sport and elegance. The effect provides roominess along with a snug and secure feeling.

"We've known for some time that if Lexus ever prioritized styling the way we have product quality and advanced technology, we would once again change the luxury car playing field," said Clements. "The LF-C is a stunning example of how Lexus will address the future and change it at the same time."

Specifications

Wheelbase: 110.0 in.

Length: 78.7 in.

Width: 73.0 in.

Height: 53.5 in.

Engine: High-Output Double

Overhead Cam V8

Transmission: 6-Speed Sequential A/T

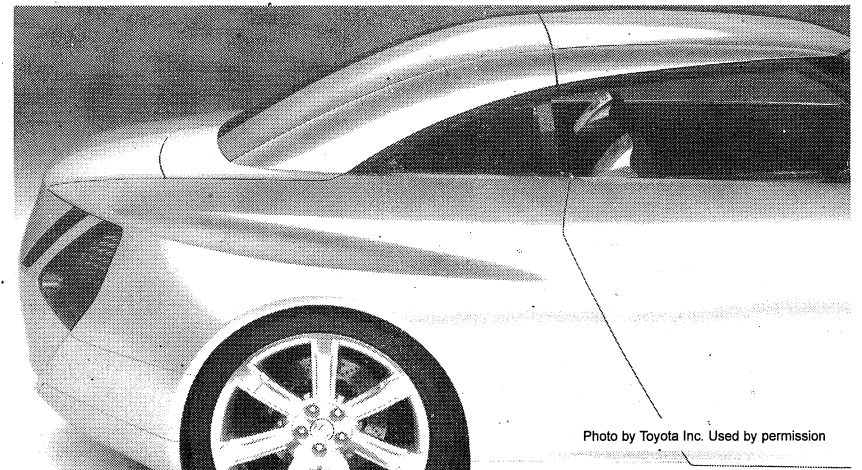


Photo by Toyota Inc. Used by permission

length of the interior. Displays and controls are hidden beneath this transparent console surface that is multi-layered, which creates a sophisticated, high-tech look and feel. The

Layout: Front engine, rear drive

Tire - Front: 245/35 ZR20

- Rear: 285/30 ZR21

Wheel Size - Front: 20 x 9 in.

- Rear: 21 x 10.5 in.

Volkswagen researches fuel cell

Wolfsburg / Hanover: A "State Fuel Cell Initiative" will be officially launched on 30 March in partnership with Lower Saxony's Ministries for Economics, the Environment, and Science. Three "Competence Nodes" are to be set up in Lower Saxony with the aim of exploiting the opportunities offered by fuel cell technology. These nodes focus on three separate fields: automotive applications, high-temperature fuel cells for power stations/residential

applications, and training in the application of fuel cells.

Wolfsburg has been chosen as the location for the area of automotive applications. The Fraunhofer Project Group for Sustainable Mobility will start work with the support of Volkswagen. It has the task of identifying innovative companies of the future in Lower Saxony and bringing them together to form a network via interdisciplinary projects. The objective is to create new jobs and promote Lower Saxony's continued development into a "high-tech" location.

At the press conference Volkswagen

is presenting a T5 Multivan equipped with a hydrogen fuel cell. The vehicle has an on-board auxiliary power unit (APU) with an output of 5 kW, capable of powering a high-performance auxiliary air conditioner or providing a 220 Volt alternating current for a range of electrical equipment, such as a laptop, coffee machine, light, TV etc.

To meet the need for sustainable mobility concepts Volkswagen is pursuing fuel cell technology as a long-term strategy. This technology is seen as offering not only the greatest potential to reduce fuel consumption, but also the longer-term

prospect of ending dependence on fossil fuels. For the period until fuel cell development has reached the implementation stage, Volkswagen's fuel strategy is to pursue in the short term the further development of synthetic fuels and a change to biogenic fuels (SunFuel) in the medium term. This means that Volkswagen is initiating and promoting both fuel cell technology and activities for new ways of using biomass, since there will be a coexistence of the internal combustion engine and the fuel cell over a period of decades.