

"What do I  
know?"

—Montaigne

# News & Views

A Forum for Stony Brook's Graduate Community

October 6, 1997



First Copy Free



## Stony Brook Symphony Orchestra Opens Season

BY PERRY GOLDSTEIN

The Stony Brook Symphony Orchestra, under director Gustav Meier, lived up to its reputation for excellent performances of challenging repertoire in its 1997-98 premiere concert on Saturday, September 27 on the Main Stage of the Staller Center. The program consisted of the overture to Mozart's last opera, *La Clemenza di Tito*, and two ambitious twentieth-century pieces. Cellist Andrea Lysack, one of the winners of this year's Music Department Concerto Competition, was featured in Sergei Prokofiev's *Sinfonia Concertante*. Igor Stravinsky's ballet, *Petrouchka*, concluded the program.

The Symphony, which is regarded as one of the best student orchestras in the country, is composed primarily of graduate students who have come to Stony Brook to complete their studies after undergraduate or graduate training at such institutions as the Eastman School of Music, the New England Conservatory, Oberlin College, Indiana University, the University of Illinois, and Yale University. The Music Department's sturdy international reputation also attracts musicians from all over the world, and this year's orchestra includes students from Canada, France, Japan, Korea, Spain, Israel, the Ukraine, and the United Kingdom.

The man responsible for bringing it all together is Gustav Meier. The Swiss-born conductor has served on the faculties of the University of Michigan, the Eastman School of Music, and was the youngest person to achieve the rank of full professor at the Yale School of Music. Since 1980, he has overseen the prestigious Conductors Seminar at Tanglewood, the summer home of the Boston Symphony. "When Gustav Meier comes to rehearsal," says flutist



N&V / Murat Eyuboglu

The Stony Brook Symphony Orchestra

Vanessa Gunter, a veteran of several professional orchestras who enrolled at Stony Brook for a doctorate, "you can tell that he's lived with the music. He knows the score inside and out and has made decisions about what he's looking for musically. The rehearsals are remarkably efficient. He's also 'baton articulate.' You always know what he's asking for. At the same time, his conducting technique is designed with a pedagogical purpose: he encourages the members of the orchestra to listen to each other."

Saturday night's program contained two difficult twentieth-century works, by Russian composers who enjoyed different fates. Igor Stravinsky left his native country permanently early in the century, living in Switzerland, France, and the United States,

where he was unhindered in freely pursuing his own musical directions.

Prokofiev, on the other hand, returned to the Soviet Union in the mid-1930's, where artists were pressured to propagandize the Soviet cause. In 1948, he and several other prominent Soviet composers were censured by the Party for writing "confusing and neuropathic combinations which turn music into cacophony and a chaotic accumulation of sounds," and for promoting "formalistic perversions and anti-democratic tendencies in music," namely the "cult of atonality, dissonance and discord." His music of this period is nothing short of subversive, always

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## What Exactly is the Graduate Student Organization?

BY SANDY ZARADIC

"What is the GSO, and what does it do for me?" This is a question I have heard from graduate students quite often, even those who have been around for a long time. The aim of this article is to answer these questions, and introduce you to your student government and its functions at an early stage. If you are asking yourself "Why do I need to bother reading this article?", consider the following:

The most important function of GSO is to deal with graduate student concerns. As a consequence, the organization has at its disposal a variety of resources which can be of use to you. Even though we may not be able to help you directly in some circumstances, we may be able to refer you to someone who can. Therefore, it may be useful if you familiarize yourself with GSO and its resources.

Secondly, every semester GSO charges you a student activity fee: \$17.50, if you are a full-timer, or \$5.00, if you are a part-timer. While this money is necessary for the administration of the GSO, the bulk of it is used in providing a number of services and programs for graduate students. Some of them (for example, RAP) can be taken advantage of only if you know about them. I hope the following information will help in this regard.

**GSO's governing structure:** I will dwell on this only briefly, since a large amount of detailed information is available on-line from the GSO web-site.

In short, the GSO is the graduate student government on campus. Its goal is to identify and protect graduate student rights, to promote graduate student participation in University affairs which effect them directly or indirectly, and to improve the quality of graduate student life on

campus. All registered graduate students paying the activity fee are members of the GSO.

The GSO is comprised of an executive branch and a legislative branch. The first, called the Executive Council seats five voting officers: the President, the Vice-President, the Treasurer, the Secretary and the Speaker. The first four are elected to office directly by the constituents, while the Speaker is voted into office by the Senate. The Senate is comprised of Senators from the different academic departments who are elected into office by the graduate students of that department. Every department has the right to seat at least one Senator in the GSO. Any member of the GSO can run for the GSO Senate and Executive Council.

The following services and programs are run or sponsored by the GSO.

**Child Care:** GSO spends \$8500 every year in subsidy to on-

campus child care for graduate students. This allows the child care organizations on campus to offer a reduced fee for graduate students. Currently GSO is looking into expanding this service.

**Voluntary Ambulance Care:** This on-campus organization which provides ambulatory services to the graduate students is supported and funded by GSO.

**The SPOT:** Located in Fanny Brice, the SPOT is the campus graduate student bar run by the GSO. At the SPOT you can enjoy a large selection of quality beer at low prices, live music, cappuccino, pool and above all a quality atmosphere. This makes the SPOT a major fixture of the Stony Brook night life. All graduate students get in for free.

**RAP:** The Research Allocation Program (RAP) is a

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# News & Views Letters

## TO OUR READERS:

*News and Views* is back!

This year the graduate student newspaper is continuing its publication with a significant amplification of its contents. Our principal focus remains to be the direct link between the graduate student body and the many functions of the Graduate Student Organization. At a time when the structure of the University is undergoing considerable modifications, the role of the GSO, and its press venue *News & Views*, acquires additional urgency.

It is our goal to address the many issues that concern graduate student life on campus, within the admirably broad perspective in which the GSO approaches and tackles them. These issues surely range wide: housing, health insurance, unionization, parking, environmental issues on campus, the status of GAships and the quality of research under continuous cuts, faculty-student relations, interdepartmental graduate student relations, many dimensions of social life and much more.

We invite you to share your perspectives on these and other issues with your fellow graduate students through the medium of *News & Views*. This is your newspaper, so your contributions to it are essential!

While addressing such practical concerns, we also intend to function as the "Time Out" of the campus, informing you of the goings on of the campus, reporting and reviewing social events and restaurants, giving tips about weekend outings and how to have fun on Long Island.

If there is an event that you think should be listed in *News & Views* please contact us. We will list it gladly.

Finally, we also conceive of the role of *News & Views* as a crossroads in which ideas of an indefinably broad spectrum can be exchanged. At the graduate level we are by definition engaged in highly specialized areas of research, so much so that it is often difficult to explain dissertation topics to one another, even if the fields in question are not that far apart.

Yet, the links between what goes on in the labs and libraries of Stony Brook and the world events in the most general sense are intricate and deep. Therefore, we invite articles that reflect on the broad implications of specific fields, research trends, the nature of the disciplines, reactions and responses to developments in the academic and science community at large. Send informal abstracts or outlines to [meyuboglu@ic.sunysb.edu](mailto:meyuboglu@ic.sunysb.edu).

Think of this as, at best, an Arcadian Palace of ideas or, at worst, a modest clipboard of passing thoughts. Which one of the two it will turn out to be is less important than your participation itself.

So, please, take this opportunity of a casual and low pressure publishing atmosphere to circulate your ideas within the Stony Brook community.

We are looking tremendously forward to your contributions and responses to *News & Views* and to the potential role of the newspaper to turn our graduate student body into a true community.

**The Editors**

## A Sure Way to See Your Book in Print

### TO THE EDITOR:

I graduated from Stony Brook at the age of 55, and self-published my memoir, *Uprooted*, twenty years later.

In the Fall of 1993, *Stony Brook* alumni magazine featured the unpublished *Uprooted*, the story of my survival of the Holocaust, in an article that launched my career as a writer. Invitations arrived from Mort Mecklosky to appear on WUSB FM, and from essayist David Bouchier on WSHU Public Radio; Councilman Joseph Macchia interviewed me on cable television. Publicity was in place but not the book. My goal was publication.

A completed manuscript, and a \$20 check sent to the Library of Congress, insured copyrights. I procured a list of publishers from the *Writer's Market* and began sending proposals. Most refusals were form letters: "Sorry, we do not accept memoirs from unknown writers." Adele Glimm, the writing instructor, told me: "For every refusal, mail two additional letters." Out of 200, one requested a manuscript. He returned a contract offering \$10 for a seven-year binder. Being 75 years old, I turned down the offer. A vanity press wanted to publish for \$15,000. It was then that I decided to self-publish. The breakthrough occurred during a meeting with University President Shirley Strum Kenny, who suggested to see Carl in Graphics Support. Carl's

crew went to work: covers, photocopies, binding. Weeks later I had the

finished product. It was a wonderful feeling to see my book in print after seven years of hard work.

Budget Printing in Stony Brook took it from there. The first was an easy sell to friends and associates—next went to libraries and book stores.

*Uprooted* was reviewed by local newspapers and *Newsday*. Stony Brook Museum opened an exhibit, "Rescuers of the Holocaust," I was here to speak.

Other engagements followed: schools, libraries and churches. Emma Clark Library arranged a display. Before my presentation at Port Jefferson, the lights suddenly went out. I didn't think much of it, until a hate letter arrived from a revisionist group. The presentation was rescheduled.

Theater Three taped my speech for possible use in their play. Steven Spielberg sent his *Shoah* crew for a film interview, where I talked about *Uprooted*.

The book is now available at University Bookstore and Borders in Stony Brook, Commack, and in Bohemia, where I will be signing books on Thursday, October 16 at 7 pm.

Authors who want to see their work in print, after everything else fails, should consider self-publishing. It is the only way to go.

**George A. Raisglid**  
Author of *Uprooted*

## Announcements

### National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowships Competition

The National Science Foundation (NSF) will award approximately 1,000 new Graduate Research Fellowships (Graduate Fellowships and Minority Graduate Fellowships) to support graduate study in science, mathematics and engineering.

Fellowships are awarded for graduate study leading to research-based master's or doctoral degrees in the fields of science, mathematics and engineering supported by the NSF. Applicants must be citizens, nationals or permanent resident aliens of the United States at the time of application. Separate competitions are conducted for Graduate Fellowships and Minority Graduate Fellowships, each with additional awards offered for women in engineering and computer and information science. Minority Graduate Fellowships are available to members of ethnic minority groups that traditionally have been underrepresented in the advanced levels of the nation's science and engineering talent pool.

Each three-year fellowship provides a stipend of \$15,000 for 12-month tenures and a cost-of-education allowance of \$9,500 per tenure year.

Graduate and Minority Graduate Fellowships are awarded on the basis of ability. Applications are evaluated based on all available evidence of ability, including academic records, recommendations regarding the applicant's qualifications and Graduate Record Examinations (GRE) scores.

The deadline for applying in the 1998 competition is November 6, 1997. Awards will

be announced in March 1998.

The NSF contracts with Oak Ridge Associated Universities (ORAU) to provide the support services for this prestigious fellowship program. For additional information, contact the NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program, ORAU, P.O. Box 3010, Oak Ridge, TN 37831-3010; phone (423) 241-4300; E-mail [nsfgrfp@orau.gov](mailto:nsfgrfp@orau.gov); or fax (423) 241-4513.

## News & Views

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*News & Views* welcomes letters, opinions and information about events and campus activities. Write to: Room 224, Student Activities Center, Zip- 2800 or [meyubogl@ic.sunysb.edu](mailto:meyubogl@ic.sunysb.edu). Phone is 632-6492. All letters must include the author's name and either telephone number or e-mail address. Please type all submissions. The editors reserve the right to edit letters for length, clarity, language and readability.

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# Neighbors Watching Out for Neighbors

## Residents in Chapin Apartments Form Neighborhood Watch

By TOM FLANAGAN

Residents in Chapin apartments are making it a policy to keep their eyes open, their ears pricked and their minds alert. The apartment complex on East Campus, comprising 12 buildings and more than 1,000 total residents, has formed a Neighborhood Watch program.

The Neighborhood Watch at Chapin began in mid September. "A group of concerned residents got together and wanted to create a sense of community awareness," says Melaku Mekonnen, director for University Apartments for the Division of Campus Residences. "They wanted to make Chapin secure for children, adults and the whole community."

Creating an atmosphere of safety goes hand in hand with awareness. Stacy Dermont, a resident of Chapin and a mother of one, spearheaded the logistics to make Chapin's Neighborhood Watch a reality. "Many cultures and intellects are coming together at Chapin," she says, "but neighbors really weren't talking to neighbors." One of the goals of the Neighborhood Watch was to change that. "Now, awareness has been increasing incredibly," Dermont says.

"We're thrilled with it," says Doug Little, assistant director of the University Police for Community Relations. "It's something we'd like to see on the entire campus. It leads to less crime, more community involvement and more cooperation between the community and the police."

In the past, Dermont says, Chapin had no forum for residents to bring forth concerns such as child safety, parking, traffic and the state of facilities. The Neighborhood Watch

now provides such a forum. "It has caught on like wildfire," Dermont says. "People are concerned about the safety of the children."

There are about 80 - 90 children in Chapin, says Mekonnen, ranging in ages from infants to teenagers. One aspect of the child safety issue was brought into the spotlight on September 22. According to University Police, it was reported that someone had parked a car in the Chapin parking lot and attempted to lure a boy into the vehicle. The child ran back to his apartment. That night, Chapin residents went to work. "Neighborhood Watch went door to door informing the residents," Dermont says.

This incident, which is currently under full investigation by the University Police, brought the horrible reality of child abduction to the center stage. "We are now more vigilant than before," Mekonnen says. "And we are working with the University Police to overcome such problems."

Dermont agrees. "It has sharpened our awareness," she says. "Everyone's ears are pricked up and we want to put safety issues into action."

The Neighborhood Watch's itinerary for safety-into-action involves the first step of voicing a concern. Concerns are raised most effectively at the Neighborhood Watch's general meeting. The last meeting, on Friday, September 26, provided a forum for discussing recent successes of the program as well as outlining plans for the future. Four officers from the University Police attended the meeting to talk and listen to residents' ideas and reactions about safety.

One of the concerns of the residents was parking. Currently, Chapin has 240 parking spots for

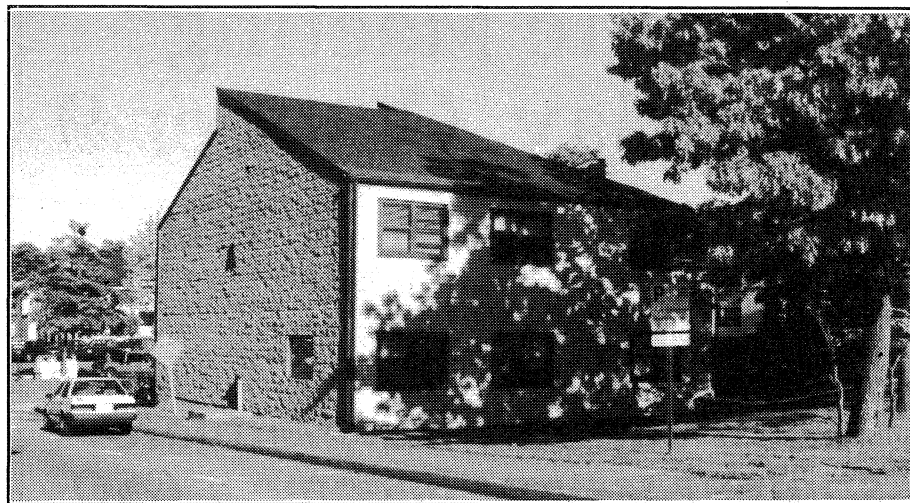


Photo / Jae M. Kim

A view of one of the Chapin Apartments

nearly 760 contract-holding residents. "Parking spaces in the day were being taken over by visitors to the hospital," Mekonnen says. "For example, when residents dropped off children to day care, they returned to find no spots." To remedy the situation, the Traffic Office implemented stricter parking measures. Signs were posted and ticketing was enforced. Only residents with Apartment Parking stickers are allowed to park in the Chapin lot.

A child safety concern surfaced in the beginning of September involving motorists on East Loop Road. When school buses picked up children from the Chapin bus stop, an alarming number of motorists ignored the bus's red lights and sped past. University Police responded by stationing officers by the bus stop during the peak morning hours to ensure the safety of the children and to enforce the traffic regulations. Now, Mekonnen says, traffic seems to be back to normal.

Also, a request for a blinking yellow light by the entrance to Chapin to slow down traffic and protect

pedestrians has been approved by the University. The light, says Mekonnen, will be up and blinking in about four to six weeks.

A number of new issues were raised at the last meeting. These include: installing an additional blue light phone in the Chapin complex (the closest one is near the bus stop); returning the mail drop box to the Chapin entrance that was removed during the East Loop Road expansion; improve Chapin's recycling initiative; and adding additional locks to the apartments.

The Neighborhood Watch, though still in its infancy, has made its mark significantly in the areas of safety and awareness. As for the future, it looks forward to the challenges ahead. "We have a chance to make a difference," Dermont says. "I think we should seize it."

The next meeting of Chapin's Neighborhood Watch is tentatively scheduled for October 23. For information, call Melaku Mekonnen at 632-6755 or Stacy Dermont at 216-2071.

# Stony Brook Symphony Orchestra Opens Season

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overlaid with the double meanings of an artist who is not free to express his vision.

Prokofiev's *Sinfonia Concertante* (1952) was completed shortly before his death, and is a re-working of his 1938 Cello Concerto, with a larger orchestra and greater interaction between the soloist and the ensemble. The score is complex, an amalgam of often competing gestures and emotions. The evening's splendid soloist, Andrea Lysack, calls the work "a huge piece. There's so much material and it requires great concentration and endurance. It's athletic music, making huge demands on soloist and orchestra both technically and aesthetically. There are also challenges in integrating the solo part with the orchestra. When you finish playing it, you feel like you've run a marathon." About her experience with the orchestra, she said, "when we began, most of the orchestra members didn't have the piece in their ears. The work's symphonic conception demands more of an orchestra than the typical concerto, in which

the orchestra often plays a more subsidiary role. Our first two-hour rehearsal was intense, and we all got to learn the piece together. I was grateful to Gustav Meier for all the rehearsal time he gave to the work and for how enthusiastic and encouraging he was throughout. He put so much energy into preparing this performance."

If Stravinsky had produced nothing but the three ballets composed between 1910 to 1913 — *The Firebird*, *Petrouchka*, and *The Rite of Spring* — he would still be revered as one of the most original voices in twentieth-century music. Stravinsky developed a formal technique that resembles the quick cut in film making, juxtaposing disparate kinds of music in abrupt ways. *Petrouchka*, from 1911, also contains other innovations, such as bi-tonality (the orchestra plays in two keys at once), and polymetrical techniques (music simultaneously in two different meters). The score is pictorial, depicting the various characters and actions of the ballet, and offers numerous opportunities to show off soloists, sections, and the entire ensemble. The orchestra handled the work's technical and aesthetic

challenges expertly, producing a colorful and exuberant reading.

David Lawton, chair of the music department, was "delighted by the season's first concert. I was pleased with both the high level of playing and the ambitious programming of such difficult music for the first concert. I was also pleased to see such a large and warmly appreciative audience." He points out that the four soloists chosen for this year's concert series competed with over thirty musicians and that the level of musicianship made the decision-making process agonizing. "It's remarkable to have an ensemble of this caliber in our own backyard, and I hope every student in the university will take advantage of the opportunity to hear our many other ensembles as well as the Symphony." To encourage more students to do so, the department has rolled back the price of student tickets for the Stony Brook Symphony from \$10 to \$6. Each concert is preceded by a free pre-concert lecture by the symphony's annotator, Dr. Mark Lederway.

Perry Goldstein is an Assistant Professor in the Music Department

Get Involved!

**GSO**

Senate Meeting

Thursday, October 9

Room 236 in the

Union

*Show support for graduate student issues: Become a GSO senator. Volunteer to serve on a committee!*

Meeting Begins at 7 pm  
Free Food! All Are Welcome

Department Senators Must Attend

For more info, visit the GSO office in the SA Center, Rm 224 or call 632-6492.

Stony Brook  
Symphony Orchestra  
Concert

November 1st at  
Staller with Director  
Gustav Meier

The program includes: Elgar's *Cello Concerto*; Debussy's *Prélude à l'après-midi d'un faune*; and Mozart's *Symphony no. 40 in G minor*.  
Concert begins at 8 pm.

Tickets are available at the Staller Box Office, 632-7230 (\$12, Students and seniors: \$6).

For more information, call the Music Department at 632-7330.

## ***Check Out Some of the Hottest Music Around Only at The Spot***

### **This Week:**

WEDNESDAY: John Cuomo Acoustic Solo

THURSDAY: Daughter Judy/Surreal/Bone Sugar

FRIDAY: Supergenius

SATURDAY: Clocktower

### **Next Week:**

WEDNESDAY: Crystal Rose Acoustic Duo

THURSDAY: Reckoning

FRIDAY: Salsa: Willie Viellegas All Stars

SATURDAY: The Slant/Iridesense



# Questions Arise Over LILCO / LIPA Deal

## What You Should Know Before You Vote in November

By JOSH DOUGLASS

In 1989, then-Governor Mario Cuomo agreed to a deal with the Long Island Lighting Company that allowed the development costs of the Shoreham Nuclear plant to be included in the rate base. In return, the state acquired the rights to the plant for one dollar and subsequently shut it down. The state, in other words, agreed to burden the rate payers with costs of producing a plant that would never produce a single kilowatt. This deal, while one-sided economically, was a result of very real concerns over the lack of evacuation plans in case of a nuclear melt down.

Brookhaven officials continued to assess LILCO for property taxes as if Shoreham was a viable asset. Thus, Brookhaven politicians were able to deliver a lot of pork to their constituents. For instance, the Shoreham school district has progressed in leaps and bounds technologically. However, LILCO brought a successful tax case, known as certiorari, against the town. As a result, the town was ordered to pay out over a billion dollars. Obviously, this would bankrupt the town.

Governor Pataki, riding in to save the backs of Brookhaven town officials, struck a deal with the Long Island Lighting Company. This extremely intricate deal has at its most basic level a partial takeover of LILCO by the Long Island Power Authority. It also includes a seven billion dollar offer of LIPA bonds. This represents the largest bond offering in the state's history. Stony Brook students should be concerned with the following ten questions:

1. As part of Governor Pataki's LIPA-LILCO deal, the Long Island Power Authority plans to give LILCO \$6.4 billion. What property will LIPA acquire from this transaction?

The only property LIPA will acquire is LILCO's transmission and

distribution system, the book value of which is only \$669 million. LILCO retains ownership of the generating plants under a merger with Brooklyn Union Gas.

2. Why is LIPA giving LILCO \$6.4 billion?

For the most part, LIPA is providing a back door

to bail LILCO out of its Shoreham debt when it refinances the debt with tax exempt bonds. This will provide a huge windfall to LILCO's stockholders.

3. Is refinancing with tax exempt bonds a bad idea?

No. However, before LIPA refinances LILCO's Shoreham debt, LILCO should be required by the State Public Service Commission to write off a sizable portion of its debt. This would immediately lower electric rates. Then LIPA could refinance the Shoreham debt to further reduce electric rates.

4. How will LIPA pay back the bonds?

When LIPA purchases power from LILCO, it will add exorbitant charges in order to pay back the bonds over the next 30 years. This will keep electric rates on Long Island the highest in the nation.

5. Will competitors to LIPA/LILCO be able to supply Long Island?

No. LIPA will own the wires. They will control, in effect, the toll gate. LIPA will add a "Shoreham surcharge" to the cost of transmission in order to pay off the \$6.4 billion plus interest. This cost LIPA will add on to every competitor who tries to enter Long Island for at least 16 years. We will all be captives of a new monopoly.

6. How much have ratepayers paid for the Shoreham plant?

To date, ratepayers have given LILCO \$6.5 billion for Shoreham. If the LIPA-LILCO deal is approved, ratepayers will be forced to kick in another \$20 billion dollars over the next thirty years.

7. What was the purpose of all the fanfare that accompanied the release of the LIPA-LILCO deal?

At the March 19 Pataki news conference, the public was treated to a smorgasbord of exaggerated benefits from the deal, including quick cash for rate payers, large rate cuts, and energy competition for Long Island. It was a blatant attempt to camouflage another gold-plated deal for LILCO.

8. What's the story behind LIPA's claim that its rates will be 20% less than what LILCO's would have been?

There is no 20% savings. By hiking up LILCO's imaginary future rates to absurd and inconceivable

levels, LIPA is able to project 20% rate decreases.

9. On March 19, it was announced that as a result of the deal the people would get a \$101 check in Suffolk and a \$232 check in Nassau. Is this true?

This claim of a cash refund for the public is a total fraud. Here's why: A) \$82 of the money is the result of a federal racketeering jury verdict against LILCO that resulted in rate payers being awarded nearly \$400 million from LILCO. LILCO still owes rate payers \$180 million.

B) \$19 of the money is what LILCO owes its customers as a result of Phase 1 of LILCO's Tax Certiorari lawsuit against the Town of Brookhaven over the assessment of the Shoreham plant. Suffolk County has given the money back to LILCO, now LILCO has to return those funds to its rate payers.

C) \$131 of the money (for Nassau County) is the result of Phase 2 of the tax certiorari case.

10. Is it true that LIPA will acquire LILCO's interest in another nuclear power plant?

It's absolutely true. For \$300 million, LIPA will acquire LILCO's 18 percent share in an upstate nuclear power plant. This is not an asset. LIPA will be responsible for decommissioning costs, as well as any costs associated with possible future accidents.

The New York Public Interest Research Group, part of a coalition called Initiative for Competitive Energy (ICE), has initiated a petition drive on campus with aims toward stopping this atrocity. One advantage we have is the November election. The Suffolk County Legislature has enacted referenda on the ballot in regards to stopping Pataki's deal. The question posed to voters is whether or not the county shall be given the right to legally challenge the takeover. A front group, known as the Association for a Better Long Island, has won round one of litigation which hopes to knock the referenda off of the ballot. However, the proponents are confident of a successful appeal.

Anyone wishing to give a hand in stopping the deal is urged to stop by the NYPIRG office, which is located in the basement of the Student Union.

*Josh Douglass is a member of NYPIRG*

## What Exactly is the Graduate Student Organization?

GSO, From Front Page

matching fund run by GSO. Its goal is to facilitate graduate student travel to conferences. If you are a graduate student presenting a paper at a conference then you are eligible to receive a travel grant of up to \$200 (limited to once a year per individual). Note that if you have ever received this travel money, you have been directly reimbursed for 5 semester's worth of activity fees.

**Small Claims Court:** As members of GSO all graduate students are entitled to use the small claims court, run by NYPIRG. We also retain a lawyer who may be able to provide you with free legal advice. Call GSO for details.

**Clubs and Organizations:** GSO funds Underrepresented Graduate Scholars (UGS) with over 500 members, the Chinese Students & Scholars Association (CSSA) with 250 members and Sinorama with 150 members.

**Departmental Allocations:** This is money which goes directly back to your department to be used for graduate students. An amount of \$3.75 per full-time and \$0.75 per part-time student is collected by your Senator to the GSO

and is then used as the graduate students in your department see fit.

**Social & Cultural Events:** Earlier this semester, GSO funds helped make possible a celebration of the Chinese New Year by CSSA and Sinorama. These events attracted over 500 graduate students and their families. GSO has also sponsored an Interdepartmental Bash at the SPOT which was attended by over 300 students. An immensely successful graduate student barbecue was sponsored this year by GSO. Of course, all GSO sponsored events are open to all graduate students. Our administration is working hard to bring greater visibility to these events by requiring extensive, campus-wide advertisement of such social and cultural events.

**Conferences & Speaker Series:** GSO was responsible for bringing the renowned actress and playwright Lucy Wang to campus. Women's History Month receives generous GSO funding and support. In March a Philosophy Department conference of interdepartmental interest was rendered accessible to 15 graduate students from other departments through GSO funding.

This list is by no means exhaustive. If you

want more information, please feel free to contact us here at the GSO office.

**YOU must also yet involved:** Until now I have spoken only about the "funding" aspects of GSO. One of the most important roles of the Graduate Student Organization is to represent Graduate Student concerns through the various university committees and task forces. This aspect of the organization has suffered lately due to a lack of student involvement. It is not possible for the Executive Council or the GSO Senate alone to man the many committees requiring graduate student input.

We would like to encourage any of you interested in getting your concerns and views heard by the administration to contact us; we can perhaps arrange for you to get on the board of appropriate committees.

I hope that I have been at least partially successful in impressing upon you the importance of the GSO to campus graduate life.

*Sandy Zaradic is the current president of the GSO. The above article originally appeared in the 1997 - 98 Graduate Student Survival Guide.*



# For Your Dining Enjoyment...

## Spotlight on: Thai Gourmet

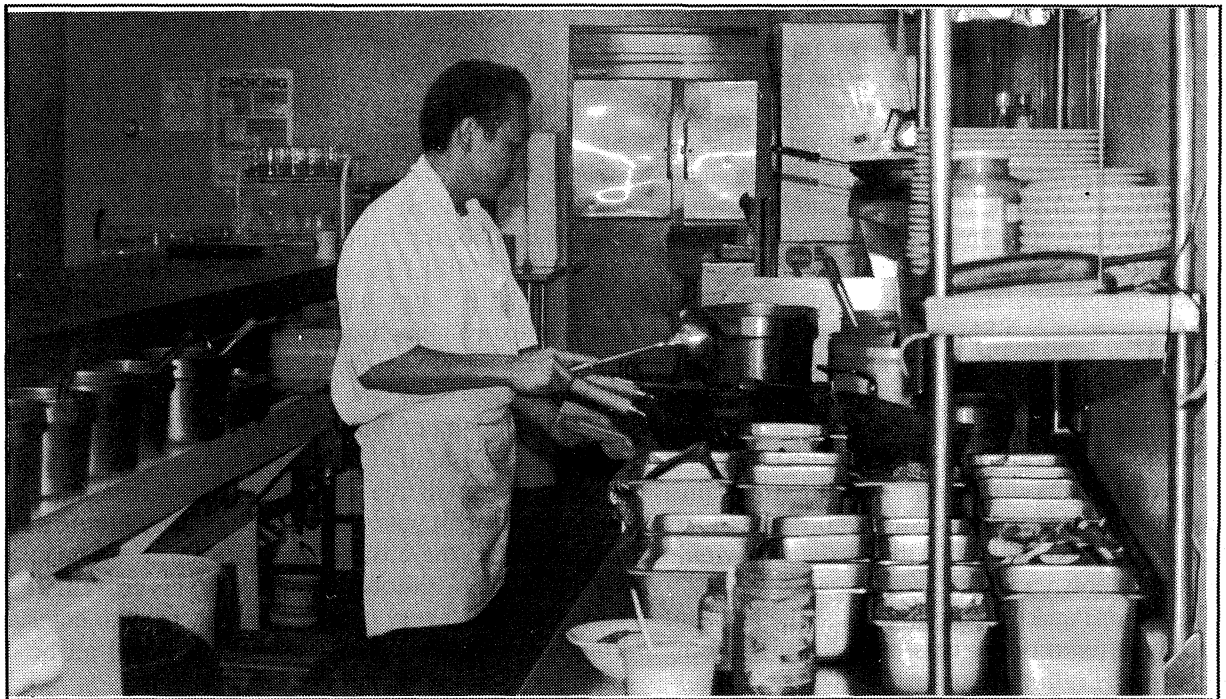
By KIRSTEN YRI

Don't be scared off by the strip mall location or bright lighting, the selection and fare is a wonderful treat. All your Thai favorites—spring rolls, satays, coconut and lemongrass soup, pad thai noodles, sweet coconut and hot spicy curries served up for an average of \$7-8 an entree.

The restaurant prepares a divinely sweet and spicy peanut curry with coconut milk and fresh shrimp, a peppery hot and tart dancing squid, and a selection of dishes with a sweet and spicy tamarind sauce. My favorite is the Massaman Spicy Chicken, a succulent and tender chicken dish with a sweet, pungent, nutty flavor sprinkled with peanut and cilantro. The adventurous can order hot but medium is already quite spicy.

Thai Gourmet has no liquor license, so it's perfectly okay to bring your own.

Thai Gourmet is located at 4747-24 Nesconset Hwy (Route 347) between Old Town Road and Port Jefferson Station. Phone: 474-0663.



N&V/Tom Flanagan

The chef at Thai Gourmet cooks up a specialty

## N&V's Guide to Area Dining

Prices of evening main courses: (approximately):

\$ below \$12  
 \$\$ \$12-15  
 \$\$\$ above \$25

**Stony Brook** (10 minutes walk from campus or 5-minute drive West along Route 25A)

**Cosmos Cafe** (1015 Route 25A, across from the train station, 246-8000): Greek fast food. \$

**Park Bench** (1095 Route 25A, across from the train station, 751-9734): good burgers and fries, beer by the pitcher; very popular with undergraduates. \$

**Pentimento** (93 Main, Stony Brook Village Center, 689-7755): elegant continental menu, attractive decor; reservations recommended. \$\$\$

**Strawberry Fields** (1007 Route 25A, across from the train station, 246-5600): gourmet deli, serving excellent sandwiches, salads, and some hot main dishes. \$

**Setauket/East Setauket:** (5 or 10-minutes drive east along Route 25A from campus)

**Anthony's** (Route 25A in Swezey's shopping center, 981-8282): pizza and pastas. \$-\$\$

**Sushi Ichi** (700 N Country Road, just East of Nicholls Road, 689-3111): excellent, unpretentious Japanese. \$\$

**Cheese N' Stuff Gourmet** (30 Route 25A, just West of Old Town Rd, 751-7204): a good place for soup, sandwiches, gourmet coffee, and fantastic pastries (daytime only). \$

**Country Corner** (Main Street, East Setauket, corner of Gnarled Hollow, 751-2800): good burgers and Armenian food in a casual pub-like atmosphere. \$\$

**Curry Club** (766 Route 25A, just East of Nicholls; 751-4845): large and varied menu of Indian dishes, mostly northern but with South Indian *dosa* also. No liquor license: bring your

own. \$\$

**Eastern Pavilion** (750 North Country Road, just East of Nicholls; 751-1888): good Szechuanese and Cantonese food, as well as sushi and other Japanese dishes. \$\$

**Fusion Grille** (316 Main St. (25A), 751-2200): excellent "nouvelle" Asian and California-style menu. \$\$-

**Paula Jean's** (130 Old Town Road just South of Route 25A; 751-5483) Cajun supper club; excellent but pricey. \$\$\$

**Hi-Lite Diner** (Route 347, 1.5 miles east of the Holiday Inn, 928-8695): typical Long Island diner with a huge menu. Overpriced unless you factor in the value of cultural experience. \$-\$\$

**Se-Port Deli** (303 Main, corner of Gnarled Hollow, 751-2432): maybe the best deli in the area: well prepared standard (greasy) fare, neighborly atmosphere. \$

**Port Jefferson** (a 10- to 15-minute drive east from campus along Route 25A)

**Costa de Espana** (9 Trader's Cove, enter from the parking lot just east of Main Street, 331-5363): Spanish, complete with velvet pictures of flamenco dancers. Excellent value, especially the early-bird specials. \$\$

**Grandma's** (on West side of Main, 474-7204): good *tandoori* and other North Indian food. No liquor license: bring your own. \$\$

**Hana** (21 Oakland, near the train station, 473-4262, 473-9264): family-run Japanese restaurant with a cozy atmosphere, first-rate food. \$\$

**James Bay Brewery** (154 W. Broadway, on Route 25A just west of the harbor, 928-2525): good home brew, but can be noisy. Calmer upstairs, where you can order from the pub menu (soup, salads, and hamburgers) or choose slightly more formal dinner fare. \$-\$\$

**Moore's** (225 Main, 928-1443): gourmet food shop with an excellent take-out deli (daytime only). \$

**Pasta Pasta** (234 East Main, 331-5335):

one of the best around; genuine Italian dishes mixed with imaginative Long Island adaptations of Italian concepts; generous portions, very pleasant atmosphere. \$\$\$-\$\$\$

**Printer's Devil** (Wynne Lane, hidden away just west of Main Street, 928-7171): pub food, good selection of beers, cozy atmosphere. \$

**Salsa Salsa** (Main Street, 473-9700): a 'burrito bar'; limited menu and tiny seating area, but with excellent fresh food and pleasant atmosphere. \$

**Steam Room** (4 East Broadway, corner of Route 25A and Main Street, 928-6690): no-frills seafood that's often delicious, served in a fast-food atmosphere. \$

**Tangerine** (4747-13 Nesconset Hwy East of Old Town Road): good Chinese food. \$\$

**Thai Gourmet** (see our review)

### Further Away:

**Mirabelle** (10-15 minutes west on Route 25A, in the town of St. James, 584-5999): named Long Island's best restaurant by Zagat's survey. Refined French food in a lovely atmosphere, expensive but well worth it for a splurge; reservations a must. \$\$\$

**Medford Pitta** (680 Route 112, Medford, 289-2262; south of Port Jefferson near the Long Island Expressway): Turkish appetizers and kebabs, served as sandwiches or platters. \$-\$\$

**Solo** (53 W Main, Smithtown; 265-8080): a favorite Italian restaurant in the area; nothing exotic, but dishes beautifully prepared. \$\$

**News & Views** invites articles that reflect on the broad implications of specific fields, research trends, the nature of the disciplines, reactions and responses to developments in the academic and science community at large. Send informal abstracts or outlines to [meyubogl@ic.sunysb.edu](mailto:meyubogl@ic.sunysb.edu).



# Around the Campus...

## Student-Faculty-Staff Retreat

The Planning Committee for the 13th Annual Student-Faculty-Staff Retreat is accepting applications from students who would like to be considered for participation in this year's program.

The SFS Retreat will bring together a diverse mix of 60 USB students, faculty, staff, administrators and alumni who will focus their attention on this year's theme of "Promoting InterACTIONS." The overnight retreat begins on Friday, October 31 at 2 pm and will end on Saturday, November 1 at 4 pm. This year's SFS Retreat will be held at the Harrison Conference Center in Glen Cove.

The Planning Committee welcomes applications from students who would like to become more active in areas of campus life. Applications are available at the following locations: Graduate Student Organization in the Student Activities Center Room 224, Stony Brook Union Room 266, Student Polity Association in the SA Center Room 202, Commuter Student Association in the SA Center Room 144-5, Office of Student Activities in the SA Center Room 219 and the office of the Dean of Students in the SA Center Room 131. Applications may also be requested by calling 632-6820 or by e-mail at [mthurston@notes.cc.sunysb.edu](mailto:mthurston@notes.cc.sunysb.edu). Applications should be returned to: SFS Retreat, SB Union 266, Zip-3200.

If you have any questions regarding the application of the Retreat, please call 632-6820 and ask for Millie Thurston, Norm Prusslin or Marcia Wiener. Applications are due by 5 pm on Friday, October 10.

## Wellness Center Offers Classes & Workshops

Wellness is the integration of the body, mind and spirit - the appreciation that everything you do, think, feel and believe has an impact on the state of your health. The Wellness Center, a new program in the Department of Student Union and Activities, is located on the lower level of the Student Activities Center. It has an area for aerobic fitness and a studio room with a wooden floor for classes and workshops. The Wellness Center works in conjunction with other campus departments in order to offer students, faculty, staff and community members an opportunity to develop a wellness lifestyle.

Programs include: Yoga on Wednesdays from 5:15 - 6:15 pm; Tai-chi on Tuesdays from 7 - 8:30 pm; Stretching and Toning on Tuesdays and Thursdays from noon - 1 pm; and Step Aerobics on Mondays and Thursdays from 5 - 6 pm. These programs are open to everyone.

In addition, Dance Classes and a series of Wellness Topic Seminars are scheduled to be offered. The fitness area is open and free to students, faculty and staff.

For information on class listings, registration forms and events, call 632-6850 or 632-6822.

## Student Union Art Gallery Celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month

Painter and sculptor Pura Cruz will place her soul on the wall for her retrospective exhibit covering work from 1988 to 1997. This exhibit will be on display through Wednesday, October 16, at the Stony Brook Union Art Gallery.

Cruz, a former Stony Brook student with a degree in studio art, has experimented with video

art in recent years. She credits her filmmaking experience for pointing her toward sculpture. Cruz says that visual artists such as Goya, Bacon and Kiki Smith have been her influences. This past winter, she attended an artist-in-residence scholarship program at the Atlantic Center for the Arts. She says that this experience led her to her newest series, "Waiting for The Whitney."

Future events at the Gallery include:

"Art and Philosophy" running from Monday, October 20 through Friday, October 31.

"Prejudice, Bigotry and Hatred in My World" art by High School Students, from Wednesday, November 4 through Wednesday, November 19.

Recent Works of Whei Za Kim, from Monday, November 24 through Friday, December 12.

The Stony Brook Union Art Gallery is located on the second floor of the Stony Brook Union. Gallery hours are Monday - Friday from noon - 4 pm or by appointment. For information, call 632-6822.

## Empire Viols in Concert at the Staller Center

Empire Viols will open this season's series of Baroque Sundays at Three with a concert of Italian and English music from the 16th and 17th centuries on Sunday, October 19 at 3 pm in the Staller Center Recital Hall.

Two little-known but exciting works by Tarquinio Merula will be played, followed by an Italo-British Fantasia by John Coprario. The heart and soul of English consort music will be represented by contrasting works by William Byrd, including a sprightly Pavan and Galliard and an ethereal *In Nomine*. Christopher Simpson's "Summer" will offer a sizzling farewell to the hot weather and a cameo appearance by harpsichordist Arthur Haas.

Empire Viols, New York city's newest and boldest viol consort, was founded in 1996. Viola de gambists Jay Elfenbein, Martha McGaughey, Carlene Stober and Webster Williams perform the marvelous repertoire for four violas de gamba from English fantasias to German dance suites to Italian madrigal diminutions, in addition to virtuoso music for one, two and three viols from the Baroque era. The group has a commitment to performing the music of contemporary composers as well, with several world premiers planned for upcoming concerts.

Empire Viols' members have appeared with many of today's major historical performance ensembles, both in the United States and in Europe. Their teachers have included Wieland Kuijken, Jordi Savall and one another.

Admission for the concert is free. A goodwill offering is requested to offset expenses and help support early music at Stony Brook. For more information, call the Music department at 632-7330.

## Forum on Policing the Police

Speakers for the October 22 National Day of Protest to Stop Police Brutality, Repression and the Criminalization of a generation will be appearing at the UNITI Cultural Center at 7 pm on Tuesday, October 7.

Speakers include Iris Baez, whose son, Anthony Baez, 29, was killed in December 1994 by a police officer and Carl Dix of the National Coordinating Committee for the October 22 coalition.

This event is sponsored by the AASO, Black Caucus and the UNITI Cultural Center. Refreshments will be served.

## BYOB - Bring Your Own Blood

Long Island Blood Services, a division of the New York Blood Center, will be holding a blood drive on Wednesday, October 8 from noon to 9 pm on the Arena Floor of the Sports Complex.

Find out your blood pressure, discover your blood type and, most importantly, save a life. Beverages and munchies will be served. Please bring ID with you.

Also, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., the Theta Kappa Chapter, in conjunction with the New York Blood Center, will be sponsoring a Bone Marrow Drive concurrently with the blood drive.

For more information, call Sue Lingenfelter at 732-3598.

## Medieval Studies Conference

Boreas, formerly Zephyrus, a national graduate student conference on Medieval Studies, will be held on Saturday, November 8 from 8:30 am to 5 pm at the Poetry Center in the Humanities Building.

The conference will include panels on Olde English Literature, Women and Christianity, Medieval Influences and interdisciplinary approaches to the music and poetry of Guillaume de Machaut.

Boreas will feature guest speaker Robert Hanning of Columbia University, author and editor of several books, including *The Individual in Twelfth-Century Romance* and *The Vision of History in Early Britain: From Gildas to Geoffrey of Monmouth*.

For further information or registration, contact [smorris@ic.sunysb.edu](mailto:smorris@ic.sunysb.edu).

## Doctoral Piano Recital

Simon Docking plays musical miniatures by Mozart, Liszt, Ravel, Webern, Takemitsu, Carter, Koontz and others.

Wednesday, October 8, at 8 pm at the Staller Center Recital Hall. Admission is free.

For information, call 632-7330.

## Indian Classical Dance Program

Come celebrate the Indian Festival of Lights with an exquisite Kuchipudi dance program featuring three famous exponents of this artform from the southern Indian state of Andhra Pradesh.

Kuchipudi has graceful movements set to intricate rhythmic variations and the program will include six dances set to songs from the well-known composers of classical Carnatic music.

The dance program will be held in the auditorium of the Student Activities Center on Sunday, November 16, from 4 - 6:30 pm, including a 30-minute intermission. Tickets are \$5 for students. Refreshments will be served.

This event is sponsored by the Association for India's Development, the Graduate Student Organization and the India Society at Stony Brook.

If you would like your event here, contact News & Views at 632-6492 or [meyubogl@ic.sunysb.edu](mailto:meyubogl@ic.sunysb.edu)





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