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Creating the Blueprint for a New Student Government

Statesman Editor

the new government. been given the responsibility of creating Governance Task Force (GTF), which has members of the Undergraduate on in time for annual spring elections, say representative governance structure to vote have The students will

the students with an even stronger forum for of the former government, while providing attempt to resolve the structural weaknesses GTF members have said that they will

[student] involvement," said Norm structure and process that will increase "We will enterprise to develop a addressing their needs.

is their campus. This is their life," Department and co-chair of GTF. "This Goodman, the Chair of the Sociology

students, two faculty members and two II :slaubivibni čl lo sisisnoo 4TO of Business Management and Policy. The Kaur, a student from the Harriman School The other co-chair of GTF is Jasleen

by the Deans of the various undergraduate members of the administration.

Controversy 32.25 T9VO student component. and a media representative complete the Vine of the students were appointed

Statesman Editor BY JEFFREY JAVIDFAR

stagnation were complaints east by the budgeting process and general programming, deterioration of the Missed appointments, poor

President for Student Affairs Frederick been having internal problems," Vice undergraduate student government has "For some time now our Student Activity Fee (SAF). adillim 22.28 and to noitsusinimbe the heart of this controversy lies the critics of the old student government. At

the Student Activity Fee." and the quality of the administration of concerned until it began to affect students some internal problems...and we weren't Preston said. "It is not unusual to have

which currently stands at \$86.50 per in favor of paying this mandatory fee, Undergraduates have repeatedly voted organizations, activities and events. by students to sponsor a range of for oversight of the SAF, which is paid The SUNY system has guidelines

Preston said that there is only one per credit for each part-time student.

semester for full-time students and \$7.50

MONDAY, MOVEMBER 18, 2002

governance bureaucracy and establish responsibilities and powers, streamline powers. lenoitulilanos government, define a clear division of diversity of a representative student the committee, are to maximize the GTF's five major goals, according to

structure," Preston said. in depth look at their governance student body to take another serious unbelievable opportunity for the "I see this as being just an academic standards.

leadership principles that recognize good

people are going to be, effectively, [just that if there is a do-over, then the new past years. "It's a feeling in the Senate substantially different from the one in that the new student government will be opportunity, not everyone is as optimistic Though Preston views this as learning

pane expressed that they would Student Polity Association senators Shapiro and other former

like] the old people," commuter senator

Continued on Page 13

salaries of the incorporation's employees. administrative matters, such as the said, by funding referenda and Most of the budget is tied up, Lawrence towards sponsoring activities and events. dollars, less than half of it can be put SAF may total more than two million Lawrence has insisted that, although the Former SPA President Akelia decreased dramatically. Student Money

couldn't do it, we wouldn't."

is in place remain."

legality," he said, "Believe me, if we concern to worty about challenges or

legality, "It is not your worry or

individuals who would like to have what

ways," Preston said. "There are

GTF] will be pressured in a variety of

first meeting, "You [as members of the

Frederick Preston spoke at the GTF's

constitutional reform committee, is

George Meyer, who sat on the

Vice President for Presidential Initiatives

is Dean of Students Jerrold Stein. Assistant

Representing the Office of Student Affairs

Benjamin Walcott also sits on the GTE

be taken and I have a good feeling about

Steps [to fix the current situation] need to

Sciences. "[But] I think it's a good thing.

representative from the College of Arts and

science major and a GTF student

to this," said George Parker, a political

"I'm disappointed that it had to come

this [reform process]."

University Senate President

representing the President's Office.

Vice President for Student Affairs

He then addressed issues of

certification, some members of the Leading an insurgence against de-

private and public. of legal recourse, and meeting both in consulting attorneys regarding a means flyers and sending mass emails, former Polity Senate have been posting

Director and the organization's Executive Council, its Executive attendance voted to suspend Polity's In one such meeting, those in

Custodial Disbursement Agent,

Executive] Council." Senator. "Senate voted to suspend [the said Carl Shapiro, a former Polity "Arguably, no one can sign checks," pending a Senate investigation.

Polity Senate meetings has attendance at the Wednesday night But since the de-certification,

> the SUNY system. "[The guidelines] reference to student governance within

> There are three relationships within SUNY guidelines." ability to make sure expenditures are In addition the campus has oversight and transacts the money to an account, campus administration collects this fee administer the fee," Preston said. "The undergraduate student government to allow a campus to certify a representative

> Former Polity President Akelia Lawrence

Engineering and Applied Sciences.

Science Center and the College of

Harriman School of Business, the Health

and Sciences, and one each from the

colleges, with six from the College of Arts

Former SPA President Akelia Lawrence

Suitesmanthad gerbacking

serves on the Governance Task Force.

body and monitoring of expenditures. certification of a student governance students: collection of the fee, between the SAF, administration and

on the record about their uncertainties. specifies, though few are willing to go administrators will have over the and the degree of input that have questioned the legality of the move Student Polity Association (SPA), some In the wake of the de-certification of

how discretionary funds are spent. continue to make decisions regarding decision was legal and that students will have offered repeated assurances that the decertify Polity," But administrators contended that "...only a judge can Several former senators have

xəpul

campus life, because it is the largest

campus has to improve [the quality of]

most important resource that the

the Student Activity Fee is the single

at stake in this debate. "The fact is,

have, personally, and that they're trying

the Senate is all that [these senators]

asked not to be identified. "But I think

fight to get it back," said a senator who

took our power away and that we should

convince us that [the administration]

"[Some senators] were trying to

Preston put into perspective what is

source of money," he said.

to save that,"

Carl Shapiro said.

University Orchestra Makes Fall Debut

By EMY KURIAKOSE Statesman Editor

The University Orchestra made its fall season debut last Tuesday night, with a presentation of pieces by composers like Antonio Vivaldi, Johannes Brahms, Maurice Ravel, and Modest Mussorgsky.

"Over the past two years, the orchestra has doubled in size. I picked the repertoire for a large

Brook Young Scholars Program. The Young Scholars are a group of high school students who are given the opportunity to participate in Stony Brook's collegiate orchestra. Tuesday's concert featured several undergraduate soloists, including Andrew Beer and Kevin Shue on the violin and Samantha Lundeen playing the cello.

"With these larger works, we have created the space for new members,"

Deaver said. "We're expanding because more students want to join and we program really good music."

The highlight of the evening was the presentation of Scheherazade by Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov. Each of the four movements in the piece recounted a different portion of the epic stories from Arabian Nights, the

The University Orchestra has doubled in size over the past tales told by the cunning two years in order to include more sections, such as brass. Scheherazade who avoided ensemble. I felt that it was a death by enticing a sultan with

ensemble. I felt that it was a challenge we could take on," said Susan Deaver, University Orchestra Music Director and Conductor.

Each concert this season will feature several uprising soloists, from talented undergraduates and graduates to outstanding members of the Stony death by enticing a sultan with clever stories each night of her imprisonment.

"Rimsky-Korsakov's aim in recreating the *Arabian Nights* musically was not to tell specific stories but to echo their fascination for the sultan, and simultaneously for the listener,"

said Clair Van Ausdall, freelance writer and author of program notes for Mercury Records.

The University Orchestra recounted the mood of each movement in what has been described as the "big and splashy" scores of Rimsky-Korsakov. The first movement, *The*

Sea and
Sinbad's Ship,
began with a
violin solo by
concertmaster
and DMA
teaching
assistant
Tammie Gallup.
The solo
"indicates
Scheherazade

weaves the to include a wide variety prelude to another night's diversions," Ausdall said.

The presentation of Scheherazade continued with The Tale of Prince Kalendar, which displayed a lively tempo to highlight the adventures of a sea bound prince in search of a beautiful woman he seeks to court. The Young Prince and the Princess, the third movement, was made to relate the tale of two lovers in Scheherazade's narrative, and the fourth movement, The Festival at Baghdad, The Sea and

the Shipwreck concluded the night with the solo violin weaving in Scheherazade's voice once again.

"The orchestra has many strong players but they are limited by the rest of the orchestra," said a classically trained music student who asked not to be named. "Some pieces were not

precise. The music is very intricate, but the sections did not play it in unison."

Others indicated that they had thoroughly enjoyed the evening's performance. "I

herself, as she The pieces played during the concert were chosen had to go because weaves the to include a wide variety of musical instruments. of a music class,

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EXPRESS

but I was so impressed by this concert that I'd like to go to more later on," said freshman Chinnu Varghese.

The selective University Orchestra will perform three more public concerts over the course of the school year. Featured performances are the Messiah Sing-A-Long on Dec. 8, the Children's Concert "The Sounds of Music" on Mar. 6, and Beethoven and Elgar in May. Anyone interested in auditioning should contact the Dept. of Music at (631) 632-7330.





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The Stony Brook Statesman Monday, November 18, 2002

CA Executive Offers Students Success Strategies

By GENE TULMAN Statesman Editor

Yogesh Gupta, Chief Technology Officer at Computer Associates, Inc. (CA), spoke about some critical factors of success in keeping with a perpetual momentum of change that is inherent to technological advancement Nov. 13.

He addressed several key aspects of technological innovations in his lecture, entitled "The Keys to Success in the Extended Enterprise."

Gupta concentrated on what he said are the most crucial components of a successful career in the field of information technology during the talk, which was held in the SAC auditorium.

"I am part of this community in more ways than one," Gupta said. "We [at CA] have a huge commitment to Stony Brook."

Mentioning that his residence is in close proximity to Stony Brook University, Gupta commented on the interdependent relationship between CA and the University.

"Over the last five or six years we have been very active with the computer science department [at SBU]," Gupta said. "We actually have been instrumental in providing



Computer Associates, Inc. Chief Technology Officer, Yogesh Gupta, spoke to Stony Brook students about how to succeed in the ever-changing field of information technology

the funding to double [the size of] the computer science department."

After giving an overview of CA's relationship with the University, Gupta noted the significance of CA's role as a local employer.

"When the computer science department here does well, we [at CA] hope to do well," Gupta said. "Lots of students from the University work for CA."

Gupta discussed the major forces involved in software business in terms of the economy, geography and technology. Citing Henry Ford's initial supply driven business strategy, Gupta contrasted the modern industrial plan as being demand oriented and, specifically, a drive towards the "individual."

"The lecture was an excellent opportunity for Stony Brook students to start thinking outside the box when it comes to the information technology industry," senior Randy Stein said. "Gupta hit on many topics not ordinarily covered in computer science classes."

Gupta stressed the necessity and pressure for software companies to ensure smooth global connectivity when he discussed mass networking as part of the cross-boundary business.

He commented on the increased miniaturization and portability today's consumers demand.

"The whole notion of being connected, regardless of where you are

in the world, is critical," Gupta said. "Things are getting cheaper, smaller, faster, better."

Gupta said there are seven key areas of concentration he believes are critical to future success in the field of information technology: integration, presentation, contextual intelligence, security, manageability, heterogeneity and scale.

"There is a level of expectation that is three, four, five times higher than what we are delivering today," Gupta said. "We are in the very early stages of information technology."

Gupta referred to a heightened emphasis on industrial security following the events of September 11, 2001.

"Since September 11, people are much more aware of the need for security," Gupta said. "If you look around, people are saying, 'How do I make sure that systems are secure, environment is secure?"

Gupta concluded by advising the audience members to select a field that is both interesting and worthwhile. He said perseverance is the only constant that will prove valuable to the individual. as well as the consumer.

"It's a competitive world out there, so you have to work hard," Gupta said.

Students Compete In College Bowl Trivia Contest

By MICHAEL NEVRADAKIS

Statesman Contributor

This past Wednesday and Thursday night, Nov. 13 and 14, Stony Brook students participated in a nationwide tournament known as the "College Bowl." College Bowl is a fast-paced question-and-answer game that takes place between teams of students at 500 universities around the country and the world.

Last year, Stony Brook University finished fifth in the Regional tournament, competing against other East Coast schools. But, Stony Brook has not always participated in the Regionals, something Tournament Organizer and Assistant Director for Student Activities Maria R. Terrana is trying to change:

"We've been involved in the College Bowl for years, but we're going to try to make a commitment from now on to go to the Regionals [every year]," Terrana said.

Terrana spearheaded this year's effort, with the assistance of 25 volunteers, the Office of Student Affairs. the Dean of Students, the Office of Student Union and Activities, and other campus organizations. Thirteen teams applied this year, and ten teams participated in the tournament.

Both undergraduate and graduate students are eligible to compete. Teams are composed of four to five players, and face off against each other in a double elimination tournament that lasts two days. Each game, described by the national organizers for the College Bowl as a "workout for the mind," consists of two seven-minute halves, during which teams have the opportunity to answer questions on a variety of topics ranging from literature to sports.

"It's nice to combine an academic

program with something social and fun and interactive," Terrana said.

Students that participated in this event agree. Pratichi Kothari, member of Team TBD, which won this year's tournament, explained that she joined after her friends participated in the tournament last year.

"We all had an interest in it from early on," she said.

Students who have participated in this tournament are so enthusiastic about it that a College Bowl club is being planned, which will allow students to play the game throughout the year and also assist in organizing upcoming tournaments.

The College Bowl tournaments on campus have not traditionally drawn a large audience, but Terrana is working hard to increase their exposure. Every student club and organization received information about the event, flyers were

posted at SINC sites around campus and students in USB 101 were encouraged by their professors to get involved. Additionally, SBU-TV covered the final round of the event and it will soon be aired.

Many who attended the tournament found it worthwhile.

"It was very interesting, and I would definitely consider participating,"said Frank Bassarath, who watched the tournament on Wednesday night in the SAC Auditorium.

The members of winning team TBD were Pratichi Kothari, Lauren Welickly, Adam Zimmerman, Renee DiResta and Richard Atkinson. They will receive a certificate in recognition of their achievement. The top five individual overall scorers from the tournament will represent Stony Brook at the Regionals, to be held Feb. 22 at the New Jersey Institute of Technology in Newark.

Baldwin Cancer Conference Held at the SAC

By Aniali Dogra Statesman Editor

An educational conference on the role of hormones in breast cancer treatments was held in the Student Activities Center at 5:30 p.m. Nov. 15. Speakers featured at the symposium, entitled "Understanding the Spectrum of Hormones and Breast Cancer," include Newsday columnist and breast cancer survivor Irene Virag and world renown gynecologic oncologist Eva Chalas, M.D.

Carol M. Baldwin Breast Cancer Research Fund, Inc., which supports and funds research investigating the causes,

treatments, methods of prevention and cure of breast cancer at the Health Sciences Center at Stony Brook University and Stony Brook University Hospital, sponsored the event.

A crowd of more than 100 people attended Friday's symposium, which was free and open to the public.

Chalas, the Deputy Director of Women's Cancer Services at the Long Island Cancer Center at SBU, opened the event and introduced Virag, Newsday's garden editor, who spoke about her experience as a breast cancer survivor.

"The speakers were very moving and the research presented was interesting, though I think some of the presentations

الأنبا الأعباعات الراكاني والمكاف الانكام للأطراء أوا يتاطرك كالمصافحا

were a bit too long," freshman Shani Brigonelle said.

Topics discussed at the conferences include new data on hormone replacement therapies, alternatives to estrogen and environmental risk factors. Prominent researchers, Dr. Giuseppe Del Priore of New York University School of Medicine, Dr. Rudi Ansbacher of the University of Michigan Medical Center and Dr. Suzanne Snedeker of Cornell University, presented their latest findings on the role of hormones in breast cancer treatment and prevention. A question and answer session followed the lectures and the speakers were available for additional questions during the postpresentation dinner and reception.

Breast cancer survivor Carol Baldwin, who made the closing remarks at the symposium, was also on-hand for questions at dinner. Since it's inception in 1996, her research fund has provided SBU researchers with more than \$1 million and a total of 32 research grants. ≥

The fund has also paid for the Carol M. Baldwin Breast Care Center in East Setauket and the Carol M. Baldwin Breast Screening Center in Smithhaven Mall in Lake Grove. The Screening Center is part of Stony Brook University Hospital.

"Together we can and will find a cure," Baldwin said.

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Students Protest Sentence to Professor Charged With Apostasy

By DANIEL DEL CASTILLO The Chronicle of Higher Education

In a fourth consecutive day of demonstrations, thousands of Iranian students at universities around the country protested against a death sentence imposed on a liberal professor who was convicted of apostasy against Islam. Prominent faculty members have also joined the demonstrations and are boycotting classes to protest the severity of the verdict.

In addition to the death sentence, the verdict handed down last week against Hashem Aghajari, a professor and chairman of the history department at Tarbiat Modarres University, in Tehran, includes a term of 8 years in prison, 74 lashes, and a 10-year ban from teaching.

Aghajari drew censure for a lecture he

gave in June at Bou Ali Sina University, in Hamedan, on "Islamic Protestantism." He called for a "religious reformation" and warned Muslims to not "blindly" follow clerics and religious leaders who have almost absolute authority in interpreting Islam. Aghajari insisted that each generation should be able to adopt its own interpretation of religion rather than accept interpretations based solely on historical tradition.

Many of Iran's top religious scholars immediately demanded that the conservative-led judiciary try the scholar for his "suspicious and unprecedented attacks against religion and the clergy."

Aghajari, who is a disabled and decorated veteran from Iran's war with Iraq, has been detained since his trial in August. The court issued a statement saying, "denying the principles of Islam brings apostasy, and the punishment is death."

The Associated Press reported today that Aghajari had written a letter to his lawyer saying he would not appeal the sentence. "I should have died when I lost my leg defending my country, but I've lived two decades more," he wrote. "If the death verdict is true, let them carry it out, and if it is wrong, then the judiciary needs to work on its shortcomings."

Students at Aghajari's university denounced the verdict as "medieval." During a demonstration, they erected a mock gallows and added a sign that read. "his crime was revealing the truth." Saeed Razavi, a student leader, chanted: "You can cut our tongues." You can take us to jail as you have jailed many other students and scholars, but you can't capture our hearts. You can't prevent freedom or expression and thoughts."

Officials in the Ministry of Science,

Research, and Technology, which oversees higher education, said they were alarmed by the judgment against Aghajari as well as the student demonstrations and class boycotts. "The minister himself has written a letter to President [Mohammad] Khatami expressing concern about the verdict against a university professor who is also a religious man and a war veteran with a revolutionary record," said Hamid Taghavitour, deputy director general for public relations at the ministry. "This judgment could have harmful outcomes in many different areas."

Khatami issued a statement calling the court's decision "an improper verdict." And last week nearly two-thirds of the parliament called for the sentence

to be lifted.

Transfer Students Disengaged From College Life

By JEFFREY R. YOUNG The Chronicle of Higher Education

Transfer students are less engaged in academic work and college life than other students, according to the latest results of the National Survey of Student Engagement, which measures how colleges encourage learning. The survey data also show that students who "experience diversity" report higher levels of engagement than other students.

The survey, now in its third year, was taken by 135,000 freshmen and seniors at 613 four-year colleges. There were no major shifts in national averages from previous years, officials said, although individual colleges saw changes in some areas. Only the national averages for the survey are released, but participating institutions are given their own results and told how they compare to their peers. The secrecy of the survey has drawn criticism from some outside of academe.

Transfer students reported consistently lower levels of engagement than "native" students — that is, those who enrolled as freshmen. For instance, 60 percent of those students say they "worked with classmates outside of class to prepare class assignments" often or very often, while only 51 percent of transfer students did so often or very often. And 49 percent of those who enrolled as freshmen talked to a professor or adviser about their career plans, while only 36 percent of transfer students did so.

George D. Kuh, director of the study and a professor of higher education at Indiana University at Bloomington, said that many colleges offer the bulk of orientation and other programs freshman year, so students who enroll later are left out. "We haven't put our minds to what to do with upperdivision students," he said, "That's kind of in the netherworld."

Students who experienced diversity (that is, those who attend diverse institutions or participated in diversity-related activities) showed "more progress in personal and educational growth," were more involved in active and collaborative learning, and reported greater satisfaction with their college experience, according to the survey report.

Some colleges have been setting up programs to try to improve student engagement. At Radford University, for instance, the faculty-development center began offering workshops last year for professors on how to increase student involvement in the classroom.

Janice M. Schaeffler, executive director of institutional research, planning, and assessment at Radford, said that the University's survey results are high but that officials there would like to see improvements in some areas.

"Only maybe 40 percent of students say they raise their hands to ask a question" in class, for instance, she said. "We feel 100 percent of students should be engaged in that activity to get a quality education."

Some colleges have started administering the survey to their faculty members to compare professors' views with those of students.

When that was done this year at Southwest Texas State University, it revealed some surprises, said Robert Smallwood, associate vice president for academic affairs and director of academic assessment.

Few students reported frequently raising their hands in class, but professors said they saw plenty of student discussion.

"Maybe that's because a lot of that discussion is coming from [a small group] of students in that class." Smallwood said.

And while students said they came to class prepared, professors reported otherwise.

"The students' definition of what 'coming to class prepared' means is different than what professors' definition of 'coming to class prepared' would be," Smallwood said.

Hazardous Waste Complaints Made Against Three Universities

By JEFFREY BRAINARD

The Chronicle of Higher Education

The Environmental Protection Agency's New York office has filed complaints against three more universities for allegedly mishandling hazardous waste. The agency is seeking to fine Columbia University, New Jersey City University, and Long Island University a total of \$1.1 million.

The complaints are part of a continuing enforcement drive by some of the EPA's regional offices, including the one in New York, against academic institutions. In April, the office also cited Princeton University. The agency says that universities must do a better job of following government regulations on the storing, labeling, and disposing of hazardous materials, such as laboratory chemicals.

The citation against Columbia seeks total penalties of \$797,029, which the university called in a statement "disproportionate to the violations alleged."

The agency alleges that the university failed to minimize the risk of fire, explosion, or release of hazardous materials into the environment. Columbia said it will "vigorously defend" itself against that allegation, adding that there was no environmental damage or harm to people's health or safety. Neither the agency nor the university identified the type of hazardous materials at issue.

In addition, the citation said that Columbia failed to familiarize local hospitals with details about the hazardous materials that Columbia handles and the injuries or illnesses that could result from them. The agency also said that the university did not have a permit to handle hazardous wastes and failed to properly identify wastes as hazardous.

The university has requested a hearing on the complaint. In addition, Columbia's statement said, the New York Fire Department has routinely inspected the university. And when the EPA inspected the campus last year, Columbia had the necessary permits to operate each laboratory, the statement said. It added that the university "takes all matters of environmental compliance very seriously."

Another complaint, against Long Island University's Brooklyn campus,

seeks \$219,883 in penalties, and a third, against New Jersey City University, in Jersey City, demands \$88,344. Both complaints allege that the universities failed to determine whether wastes contained hazardous materials and did not minimize the risk of fire, explosions, or release of hazardous materials into the environment.

The complaint against Long Island University specifically identifies the hazardous materials involved as including mercury, organic solvents, spent fluorescent light bulbs, used computer monitors, and other wastes used in teaching, research laboratories, and the campus's maintenance shop.

A news release from the EPA's New York office also noted that the agency cited Princeton University for regulatory infractions. The complaint referred to requirements for labeling and keeping records about chemicals used in laboratories, said Lauren Robinson-Brown, a spokeswoman for the university. The agency did not allege that the violations damaged the environment or harmed anyone on the campus, she added.

Officials at the American Council on

Education have argued that the EPA has been interpreting government regulations in ways that punish colleges unnecessarily. The regulations were designed for large industry operations and do not recognize that colleges handle much smaller volumes of hazardous waste at many locations at each campus, the council says. Other university officials have also called on the government to modify the regulations. The EPA's Washington office has begun reviewing those concerns and is expected to issue a response next year.

Meanwhile, the New York office & is continuing to encourage colleges in its region-which includes New York State, New Jersey, and Puerto Rico-to voluntarily disclose environmental violations.

Agency officials have said they will focus their inspection visits on colleges \$ that do not participate. Larger, prestigious research universities also seem to have been especially likely to draw scrutiny: Half of the Ivy League institutions (Brown and Yale Universities, and now, Columbia and Princeton) have been cited in recent years.



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Editor's View

Even the Times Lets a Bad One Through

By Jeffrey Javidfar Statesman Editor

I have been inundated with calls from all across the nation. College newspaper editors have been inquiring into a New York Times piece entitled, "Stony Brook Student Government Disbanded in Dispute Over Budget."

They call expecting to hear about a campus up in arms, a rioting student body, an administration running away with its purse. They are shocked when they find the undergraduates in a general malaise—which can be characterized as satisfied at best, but more probably apathetic punctuated only by an occasional cause-head spewing his or her dogma.

I have told these people that the author interviewed numerous individuals—students, faculty and staff—and chose to insert a few excerpts that were taken out of context and deliberately skewed. I have had to tell them that the author knowingly printed misinformation. I have had to tell them that the author was a disgruntled SBU student with a score to settle. And, finally, I have had to tell them that the author admitted, while interviewing me, to being a former Polity senator and an associate of certain students who still attend this university.

Sadly, that piece and its author are not worthy

of the New York Times. Clearly, this was the work of a freelance journalist—a hired gun of the "negative forces"—trying to make a name for himself at the expense of the truth.

The very first sentence of the piece is misleading. The administration did not "disband the student government," but responded to a letter written by the president of that government, a letter begging for intervention. It was then that University President Shirley Strum Kenny decertified Student Polity Association, Inc. as the manager of the student activity fee. The move came after three years of debilitating intragovernmental conflicts, not just "inefficiency and mismanagement" as the author claims.

Kenny did not usurp our money. She transferred the organization's discretionary funds, not even onehalf of the total budget, to an interim governmental structure consisting of five committees. They are comprised entirely of students with the sole exception of the interim financial committee, where a Custodial Disbursement Agent ensures that the students' monies do not disappear.

The university president's decision was misrepresented as running contrary to the wishes of our student body. The majority of the students believe our old student government to be an

Continued on Page 7

Administrative Silence Speaks Volumes

By Adam Zimmerman Statesman Editor

Earlier in the week, I posed a series of questions relating to the current status of our student government, Polity. I ended the piece with a plea for President Shirley Kenny and Student Affairs VP Frederick Preston to provide answers to us, the students, on this most pressing matter. We received no reply.

Take heart, colleagues. Neither did the most famous newspaper in America.

A week ago today, the New York Times ran an article on President Kenny's decision to de-certify the Student Polity

Association. I myself did not know about the existence of this article until two days ago, and I have an inkling that most other students did not know about either.

The article notes President Kenny's decision, gives a brief background on Polity's structure/responsibilities, and touches on the "interim committee" that Dr. Preston established to administer the budget. The Times, ever diligent in reaching out to sources, made telephone calls to both President Kenny and Dr. Preston.

Neither responded to these calls seeking comment.

Continued on Page 10



Dear Reader,

Normally this space is occupied by one of Mr. Scott's "Infamous Cartoons." However, due to his recent comments on both President Bush and the Student Polity Association, we have no choice but to discontinue his horrible cartooons... indefinitely. Hopefully, our goodhearted, decent politicians can sleep easy once again.

Love. Illustration Editor

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ra

Tim Bishop: 1st Congressional District's Worst Nightmare

By JEFF KRUSZYNA Statesman Contributor

With a historic election night already in the books, the Republicans have control of both branches of the legislature. They coasted to victory in many regions, except here in the 1st Congressional District, where there seems to be a silver-lining for liberals.

As the numbers were tabulated from the election districts around the area that encompass the 1st Congressional District, incumbent Congressman Felix Grucci (R-East Patchogue) was in the lead. Upon first glance, it seemed like an outright victory for the Grucci camp but as the night continued, Timothy Bishop (D-Southampton) began to fight back. Bishop eventually gained a lead of 2,441 votes.

Before election night drew to a close, political novice Bishop did what any politician knows never to do—he declared premature victory on News 12 Long Island. Premature because he did it knowing that there were over 7,000 absentee ballots sent out in this Republican-dominated area.

He further lowered his credibility as a true gentleman and politician by taking cheap shots at his opponent while gloating about the victory he was yet to achieve. Bishop even went as far as asking, "Does anyone have the number for Bay fireworks? (Bay Fireworks is the leading competitor to Grucci's family business, Fireworks by Grucci."

This statement captures the essence of Bishop's campaign. He was trying to gain political recognition by accusing his opponent of not caring about Long Island. Instead of focusing on issues, such as that of the economy and Homeland Security, he resorted to making false accusations against Grucci.

"To my amazement, Tim [Bishop] has not addressed the most basic issue in politics, economics, and given the poor economy Grucci is an easy mark," said Herbert Sherman, Director of the Business Department at LIU Southampton.

Even students at Southampton, where Bishop was a Provost, don't approve of him. "I cannot reply to [Bishop] as a good leader in any way, unless you're looking to him to lead you into financial debt," said one student.

Furthermore, Bishop used loopholes to get around reporting the actual number of rapes on his campus. Would you like this deceptive man representing you in Congress?

Bishop also affirms that he is a full supporter of President Bush's plan for Homeland Security. This is extremely hard to believe, considering that he does not believe the U.S. should deport known illegal immigrants or fingerprint new immigrants to this country for background checks.

Bishop even attacks Grucei for using his role as a leader during the aftermath of the horrendous attacks of 9/11. There must be something Bishop knows about Congressman Grucei that the rest of the world doesn't because *Time* magazine's Man of the Year, Rudy Giuliani, thanked Congressman Grucei for his role of leadership and compassion during the aftermath of 9/11 at a recent news conference.

Tim Bishop is not the man we want in Congress. Hopefully, the outcome of the absentee ballots will be in favor of Grucci. If not, God help us all.

Polity Decertification Given Skewed Coverage in New York Times

Continued from Page 6

unrepresentative and self-serving oligarchy that was, at times, virtually self-elected and filled with individuals who sought office only to bolster their egos.

My colleagues and I have been reporting on the woes of Stony Brook University's student government for years, and I am addened to say that in my recent

conversations with editors of other college newspapers I have discovered that this sort of problem isn't isolated to Long Island's north shore. I am, however, encouraged by the student response at Stony Brook.

Ever since the beginning of the year, when SAFIPC began planning activities, the students have been more content. Opening week activities were a catalyst for the phenomenal success witnessed thus far.

Granted, the appointed students of SAFIPC were not elected in a 'general' election. They WERE, however, elected as leaders of their clubs and organizations through legitimate elections with higher voter participation than most LEG senatorial elections. They were chosen for the position because they had a track record for solid work and their diverse back grounds were representative of the student body.

And now, perhaps for the first time in a long time, gifted and dedicated student leaders are taking an active role in deciding how our funds are spent. They are being held accountable to us and are not wasting our time and our money by playing mock trial. Rejoice, for a representative student voice has returned to SBU. And that, more than anything else, upsets those who still meet in secret to fight it.

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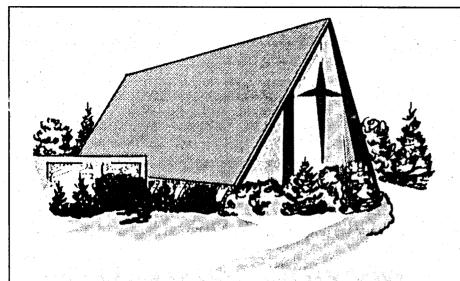
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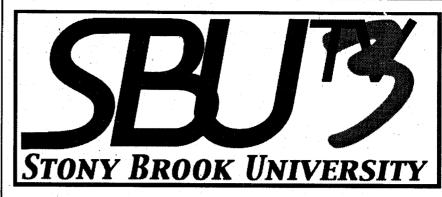
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The Stony Brook Statesman Monday, November 18, 2002

Standing Tall Against Hatred and Racism

By SARA AHRONHEIM Statesman Contributor

This morning my friends and I set out to Concordia University, in the heart of downtown Montreal, to hear Benjamin Netanyahu (former Prime Minister of Israel) speak. I had a good idea of what we would face as we approached Concordia, but I could never have predicted what actually happened once we were there.

To enter the building we had to make a giant circle around it, to get to the supposedly "safe" entrance. We had to walk right through a volatile protest of hundreds of Palestinians and their supporters in keffiyehs, with flags, screaming vitriolic hate. Once having run this gauntlet, we waited patiently outside the Bishop Street entrance, held back at the gate by security and police.

There was yelling and chanting, drumming and fighting going on outside the doors, with hundreds of out people struck behind the gate abused by hundreds of

violent demonstrators. Afew of us were waiting after the metal detectors for our friends to come through, when all of a sudden we hear loud chanting and yelling INSIDE the building. The riot cops came storming in and up the stairs behind us, and we began hearing fighting, crashing, yelling and punching. Chaos broke out and riot cops made us run for the door to the auditorium. I thought we were going to get killed, I swear. It was the scariest feeling, because I knew that these people wanted to hurt me and everyone else who supports Israel or is Jewish.

Once inside the auditorium, we were told to be patient as more people would drift in from the insanity outside. We waited inside for three hours, as the commotion outside grew increasingly loud. We could hear chanting and yelling, and the protesters began trashing the university building. The police tear gassed and pepper sprayed the entire building and outside, and we began to feel the effects if we stood too near the doors. After hours of waiting, and bomb searches by RCMP dogs, we were informed that Bibi Netanyahu couldn't speak after all—too much danger to him and to us.

This was an incredible disappointment and we were naturally upset. We however managed to maintain a kind of composure and instead of fighting, the 650 of us inside began to sing Hatikvah, the national anthem of the State of Israel. We sang peace chants and then just waited to be let out, in groups of ten, escorted by the police.

The scene as we exited was disgusting. Benches were overturned, papers and garbage streaked across the hallways, and broken windows. We were shoved outside directly into a HUGE Palestinian riot, where some of our people were apparently attacked. The cops did nothing. We stood on one side of the barrier, while they stood on the other, and we faced off. They threw bottles at people's heads, screamed hatred, and tried to break the barriers down to hurt us. They started tossing pennies and coins at us - one of the oldest ways to taunt Jews by saying we're all 'money grubbing'.

We must voice out distaste at the violence that occurred in Montreal today. We must all take out own individual stands against this fascism, by which freedom of speech was denied.

Today I saw raw hatred, and it cut me to the core. I have never feared for my life as I did today. I have never feared for our free society the way I do today.

Demanding Answers

Continued from Page 6

There is one quote from an administrator in the piece. That came from George Meyer, an assistant vice president who works in the President's Office: "The students have been complaining about the fact that the government does not adequately represent their views."

Perhaps therein lies the viewpoint of all administrators involved in this situation. Truth be told, I don't wholly disagree with it. We have seen articles in this newspaper, and in the *Press*, criticizing Polity at times for its inaction and volatile relationships among its members. Members themselves, at Senate and Council meetings, have at times expressed such sentiments as well.

But is that a reason to make an attempt to entirely disband the government? As a member of the Senate for two years, I certainly never enjoyed hearing criticism from my fellow students. However, it also meant that students were paying close attention to, and caring passionately about, the affairs of their student leaders. On a campus widely perceived as apathetic, it was always somewhat refreshing to hear the views from our peers; they may not have always agreed with us, but at least they were getting involved and speaking out.

The criticism we received was a sign of Polity's strength, not weakness. The more we heard from students, the better we could learn from our mistakes and have more successes in the future. Even this semester, which members of administration seem to believe was the straw that broke the camel's back, many students were actively involved in the formation and amending of a brand new constitution. Voter turnout last spring was our highest in years. All positive signs.

Sure, the ship needed repairs; every government does. But it was not sinking. President Kenny herself, as well as Dr. Preston, appeared before the Senate late last fall, and commended members of the government for being so involved in the 9/11 candlelight vigil, among other issues. Alas, both our University President and our VP of Student Affairs seem to have lost the faith in a government they both once supported.



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Interim Structures: How the Dollars Are Spent

Statesman Editor

Stony Brook University President Shirley Strum Kenny decertified Polity on Oct. 11, 2002. Since then, there has been some concern voiced over what will now happen with the budgets of clubs and organizations, as well as the other administrative functions that in the past have been carried out by Student Polity Association (SPA).

The duties that were performed by SPA have now been divided among a handful of interim committees that are comprised primarily of students. The interim structure seeks to provide continued services funded by the Student Activity Fee (SAF).

Vice President for Student Affairs Fredrick Preston said that the burden of financial management, including the cutting of checks for clubs and organizations, will be borne by the Interim Financial Committee. It will include SPA's former Custodial Disbursement Agent Frank Sallustio, and former SPA Treasurer Clayton John. The programs in a short period of time from the

committee will be in consultation with Preston's office, and SUNY and SPA legal counsel.

The SAF Special Programming Council (SAFSPC) and the SAF Interim Planning Committee (SAFIPC) will shoulder the burden of planning for campus life-oriented activities. The latter organization is the more prominent of the two and has been in existence since the late summer, while the SAF was in receivership. It is comprised solely of students, who were appointed to the committee from a variety of sources.

"The goal of SAFIPC is to plan major programs that are aimed towards the entire student body, basically programs Stony Brook has been missing for some time," said committee member Bryan Johnson.

Activities for the spring semester events are currently being planned. Most recently, SAFIPC sponsored a Halloween Bash and a Def Poet Jam at the Student Activities Center (SAC). Its activities have routinely been sold out.

"We were faced with planning large scale

beginning," said Johnson. "We only had about three weeks [to plan before putting on] our first program, a Campus Life Time carnival. We all were able to pull together and work as a group."

But some former SPA senators, including Carl Shapiro, have on several occasions criticized SAFIPC for not asking students what types of programs and activities should be offered.

Shapiro described the committee's performance as "dismal."

"I think few people can be satisfied with the use of the [student activity] fee," he said. "The atmosphere at their meeting was woefully inept. The ideas came off the tops of their heads," Shapiro said. "We still have enough of an infrastructure to ask students [what they want]."

There were also allegations of SAFIPC not advertising their meeting times, but committee members said that, with certain exceptions, they meet every Thursday night from 7-9 p.m. in the SAC.

SAFSPC has been asked to assume the responsibilities of SPA's former Programs Service Council. Former Polity Vice President Natasha Elie will chair this committee.

The Undergraduate SAF Elections Board, which is headed up by Polity's former Junior Class Representative Michelle Morris, was asked to facilitate the general student body elections that took place on Nov. 5-7.

SAF **Promotions** Communications Committee will be responsible for publicizing events sponsored by the SAF and will be made up of student volunteers.

In addition, the Undergraduate Governance Task Force (GTF) has been created and charged with devising a new structure for the next representative student body government. GTF's proposal will be given to undergraduate students for approval in the spring.

"We will enterprise to develop a structure and process that will increase [student] involvement," said Norm Goodman, the Chair of the Sociology Department and co-chair of GTF. "This is their campus. This is their life."

Student Body Election Results

Elections were held Nov. 5 through Nov. 7 using online voting via the SOLAR system.

Freshmen Representative: Cassidie Li: 65 votes

Samatha Philemond: 103 votes

Karla Benavides: 30 votes Yunnely Martinez: 35 votes

Referenda Results

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4)\$.50 per student per semester (\$1.00 per academic year) to fund the Blood Drive? 5)\$.50 per student per semester (\$1.00 per academic year) to fund C.O.C.A? YES 754 NO 44 6)\$1.00 per student per semester (\$2.00 per academic year) to fund USB Crew Team? YES 575 NO 64 7)\$2.50 per student per semester (\$5.00 per academic year) to fund Shelanu? YES 345 NO 84		YES 763	NO 432
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7)\$2.50 per student per semester (\$5.00 per academic year) to fund Shelanu? YES 345 NO 84	5)\$.50 per student per semester (\$1.00 per academic year) to fund C.O.C.A?	YES 754	NO 446
	6)\$1.00 per student per semester (\$2.00 per academic year) to fund USB Crew Team?	YES 575	NO 642
	7)\$2.50 per student per semester (\$5.00 per academic year) to fund Shelanu?	YES 345	NO 845
8)\$2.50 per student per semester (\$5 per academic year) to fund USB 3TV? YES 674 NO 52	8)\$2.50 per student per semester (\$5 per academic year) to fund USB 3TV?	YES 674	NO 529

Continued from Page 1

like to be involved in the reform process, and are frustrated that they have been omitted. "The people who [Preston] has chosen are those who are organizationally closer to him, under his aegis," Shapiro said. "They are naturally the people involved in the reconstruction of the student government."

However, Preston stressed that he did not want to give the appearance that he influenced the look of the next student government. "I am not on the [Governance Task Force] because I do not want any part in shaping the specifics of the details that you come up with," he told the group.





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northern Israel killing five people. Two children, two women and a man were killed. Al Aksa Martyrs Brigades, a militant offshoot of Yasir Arafat's Fatah movement, claimed responsibility for the attack (Israelnationalnews.com) The murderer entered the Kibbutz, shortly before midnight. He first shot at two people walking on a path. He then entered a house and pumped bullets into a 4 and 5-year-old brother and sister and their mother — the Ohayoun family — as she was reading them a [bedtime] story.



Ohayoun Noam, age 4 and Matan, age 5 gunned down in a terro ittack at Kibbutz Metzer

Jerusalem Post, 9/29/02) An opinion poll by the Jerusalem Media and Communication Center, a Palestinian think tank, found that 80.6% of Palestinians continue to sup-

port violence in the two- year-old uprising. 69.5% support [nonsuicide] attacks against Israeli [civilians], [and] 64.3% support suicide attacks. (NY Times) The violence came on the eve of a visit by an American envoy to promote a peace blueprint proposed by the Bush administration. The plan envisions a Palestinian state by 2005. (Editorial) However, how can anyone envision giving such terrorists their own independent state from which to work? For after all, (NY Times) [the attack] came as representatives of Fatah and Hamas met in Cairo to discuss a proposed halt to attacks in Israel. Khaled Mashaal, a Hamas leader, in an interview with the Arabic daily Al Hayat, denied that even a limited cease-fire was under discussion, [for] "We will never agree to stop the resistance."

The Stony Brook Statesman Monday, November 18, 2002

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Kornhauser's Last Dance?

By JEFFREY JAVIDFAR
Statesman Editor

Well, if it was going to happen, it would have happened two years ago when all Stony Brook did was play sloppy football and lose. Now, all the Seawolves do is win, win, win. So why is a coaching controversy springing up as the season winds down?

After getting a "no comment" from University President Shirley Strum Kenny, a local sports columnist decided to rev up the rumor mill and speculate that head coach Sam Kornhauser, who is—like it or not—a Stony Brook institution, was on his way out. Newsday reported that SBU football might be headed towards a scholarship program and a new coaching staff.

But all signs point in the opposite direction, and the administration has launched a mini public relations battle, which includes giving Kornhauser the dreaded 'vote of confidence.'

Kenny, who usually declines to comment on personnel issues (including whether individuals at the University are getting raises or being fired), decided to talk to *Statesman*.

Kenny expressed delight about the football program's recent success. "Sam Kornhauser and his team have done a terrific job this season. We are on a roll," she said. "I am delighted that our team is so strong and I am looking forward to another great season next year."

When asked if Kornhauser would continue as a coach, Kenny replied, "Of

course he will stay on. He has been outstanding in moving the team from Division Three to fielding a winning team in Division One."

Although Director of Physical Education and Athletics Richard Laskowski did not return a call placed to his office, he has previously said that SBU is far from a scholarship program. Laskowski explained that because Title IX mandates that equal money be spent on women and men's athletics, having a scholarship football team would really equate to having two teams with more than 60 scholarship athletes each. This staggering total, he has said, will be out of SBU's reach for some time.

Besides, with the team winning 42-7 in its season finale to increase their record to 5-0 at home, and contracting to stay in the non-scholarship Northeast Conference through 2006, it seems Kornhauser does have something to be confident about.

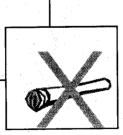
During the team's best-ever season since the program began in 1984 and its first winning season in five years, it seems like the wrong time to have a coaching controversy.

A turnaround has taken place for this former Division Three school. Perhaps it's the stadium, perhaps it's the players or perhaps it's the play-calling and coaching, but Seawolves football is the best-kept secret on Long Island. The team finished 8-2 after going 3-6 last year. When was the last time that a winning coach got fired?

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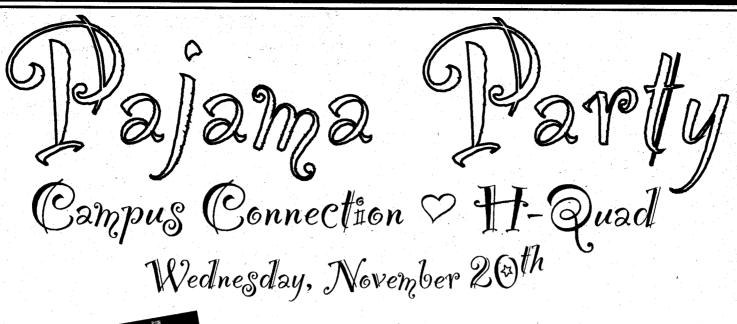
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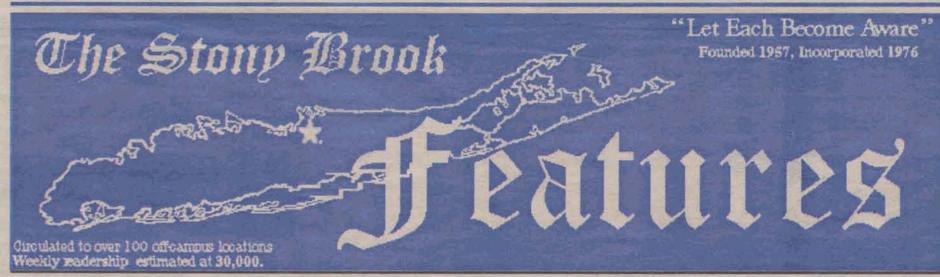
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