



# THE STATESMAN

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## Sit in With the Senate Looks to Bring Change



ALESSANDRA MALITO/ THE STATESMAN

Students spoke at the Dec. 2 USG Senate meeting, voicing their concerns and issues about current USG members and event planning.

By ALESSANDRA MALITO  
Assistant News Editor

Nadine Peart, creator of the petitioning group Students for Change, went before the Undergraduate Student Government, or USG, Senate on Dec. 2 to find a resolution for the problems she's seen with the roles of members and the lack of event planning this past semester.

What she found instead was the beginning push to a domino effect for the future, which will include an improved Student Activities Board and their planned billboard events, according to USG officials.

"I think the biggest problem here was a miscommunication of several groups," said Undergraduate Student Government Executive Vice President Alexander Dimitriyadi, adding that Students for Change did not come to them prior to sending out an email to clubs and organizations on campus. The

email included a brief description of the purpose of the group, along with emails Peart exchanged with USG Director of Event Programming Moiz Khan.

"[They] are attempting to control and corrupt the entire system," she wrote in her email about Khan and Dimitriyadi. "They have done so by pressuring students who disagree with their views by disjointedly threatening impeachment and removal, and have attempted to keep a majority of the decision making about money and where it is spent under their control."

The problem first arose when the Senior Weeks Committee, which Peart was a member of, was dismantled by Khan due to a lack of diversity. Peart and fellow Students for Change members claimed this was unfair and the proper way to handle the situation would have been to talk to them about it to find a solution.

"As far as I know, race is an outdated way of defining diversity," Peart said. "It's not the

color of your skin that makes you diverse; it's what you bring to the table, your experiences in life. You as a student."

According to the email, Khan was unaware of his responsibilities for this committee, which include appointing its event coordinator. Therefore, he made himself chairperson and began the process of finding members to make the committee more diverse. He is currently undergoing the process and has found about six individuals who have yet to be notified. Dexter Daniels, the former chairperson of the committee, was relieved of his duties as an official.

Daniels would not comment. "He can dismantle any event planning committee," said David Mazza, vice president of communications and public relations. "Abusive power? I guess you can say it is because it wasn't a nice thing to do ... but at the end of the day, it's his job."

See USG on 3

## Who's Who...



Alexander Dimitriyadi  
USG Executive  
Vice President



Nadine Peart  
Creator of Students  
For Change group  
on Facebook



Moiz Khan  
USG Director of  
Event Programming



David Mazza  
Vice President of  
Communications  
and Public Relations

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ISSUE

### Peter Angelo Keeps Swim Program Afloat

From the left came a parade of wheel chairs, walkers and wet suits. From the right, a collection of able-bodied Stony Brook students. Both sides existed to achieve "minor miracles."

Next came laughter, splashing, shrieks of joy and more splashing. The pool deck flooded with enthusiasm. While under

See AQUATICS on 2

### Leaving Behind More than Just a Mural

Just a few months ago, the hallway outside of the University Bookstore in the Melville Library could be summed up in two

words: white cinderblock. Now the wall is full of color. Painted books,

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# NEWS

## To Sink or to Swim?

### Peter Angelo Keeps Swim Program Afloat

BY PHILOMENA BUBARIS  
Staff Writer

From the left came a parade of wheel chairs, walkers and wet suits. From the right, a collection of able-bodied Stony Brook students. Both sides existed to achieve "minor miracles."

Next came laughter, splashing, shrieks of joy and more splashing. The pool deck flooded with enthusiasm. While under close supervision, a synergy was taking place between the participants and the instructors in training.

The Adapted Aquatics program at Stony Brook University is a highly specialized training program. It is designed to teach university students to adapt aquatic and therapeutic skills to the needs of people with severe physical and multiple disabilities through hands-on interaction.

Peter Angelo's persistence to develop this program into an academic course that allows

students to receive a variety of credentials, licenses and certifications while doing hands on coursework is what makes this program an ongoing success. The progress of the disabled participants and the blossoming of the university students fire his passion to continue to direct this program, even after 46 years.

"If I lose my enthusiasm, it is time to hang up my bathing suit," said Angelo, the director of Adapted Aquatics and Emergency Response Programs.

The program began as a pilot program in 1966 for the Suffolk County Red Cross and was meant to determine the feasibility of creating an Adapted Aquatics program in a university setting. This attempt occurred in universities all over the country; Stony Brook University was the only program to succeed.

The swimming department at Stony Brook needed a driving force to pull this program together and Angelo had just



FRANK POSILLICO / THE STATESMAN

Kristen Connolly, a senior, teaches Nicholas Meyer swimming techniques in the Stony Brook University pool. Connolly is part of the Adapted Aquatics program at Stony Brook.

graduated from the university.

Angelo was in training to become a distance swimmer in the U.S. Olympics when he was yanked into the Adapted Aquatics program immediately after graduating with a bachelor's in biology and psychology. He was asked if he would be willing to develop a curriculum for the program, and excitedly accepted the offer.

"I was thinking of doing some give back," Angelo said.

He still remembers hearing stories of his grandmother, who had a massive stroke and was forced to live in a wheel chair for 17 years of her life. He explained that if there had been a program like this for his grandmother, her life would

have been improved tremendously.

"Dr. Angelo is doing God's work," said Sam Ramos, whose 11-year-old son Zach is a cancer survivor with nerve damage. According to Ramos, Zach will never be a track star, but after seeing the way he can move in the pool, he doesn't set limits for himself.

"Participants, students, and fellow faculty members are grateful for their interaction with this program and the driving force behind it," Angelo said.

Trudi Torn and Keri Novothy have both been bringing their children, Nick and Heather, to Adapted Aquatics since they were six years old. Both of them have cerebral palsy and are wheel chair bound. Now, they are in their 20s and still participate in the program every Thursday night at 7:30 p.m.

"It is the best thing I do all week long for my kid," Novothy said.

The program is not the work of just Angelo. Physical therapists and veteran teaching assistants also advise the Adapted Aquatics program. All of the program advisors are volunteers; none of them receive a salary. They are simply giving back.

Rob Belizar is a volunteer physical therapist and Stony Brook graduate. He has been involved in the program since he was a freshman in 1998. Adapted Aquatics encouraged him to pursue his dreams to become physical therapist.

His job as a volunteer is to help college students adjust to working with the disabled. He gives

them participants' background information, which is stored in case files starting from their first day in the program. There are many familiar faces, because participants feel comfortable returning. Belizar is not a medical advisor, but he ensures the safety on deck and helps set reasonable goals for the participants.

Not only do the participants learn to increase their mobility in the water, but students learn how to work with people with disabilities. The program provides specialized therapy free of charge to amputee participants and those with disabilities such as muscular dystrophy and cerebral palsy.

Colin Bedell is a former volunteer and adaptive aquatics minor. He was introduced to the program in the first semester of his sophomore year and since then he has developed a strong connection with participants in the pool.

"His work in this program is extraordinary," Bedell said of Angelo. "He is an amazing man with outstanding accomplishments."

In order for the program to maintain its current standard of excellence, Angelo has fought an uphill battle with the university.

After receiving his graduate degree in English, Angelo was given full charge of the program in the late 1970s. Its curriculum was part of the Stony Brook physical education department, but like many other programs it struggled to stay afloat.

See AQUATICS on 3

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# Sit in With Senate Looks to Bring Change

From USG on 1

The power for him to do so was created during a Senate meeting on April 20, 2010 that established the Student Life Act. The details of his position can be found in the September 2010 USG Code, which states that the Student Programming Agency, also known as SPA, is a sub-agency of the six-member Students Activities Board and that the director, appointed by the President and Vice President of Student Life, Programming and Activities, hires the Event Planners and supervises.

The new SAB includes President Peter Molloy, Secretary David Mazza, Treasurer Michael Spinelli, Residence Hall Association Representative Anay Thodge, Commuter Student Association Representative Amy Pomeroy and Khan.

Dimitriyadi was also scrutinized for having too much power. But his position, he said, is to be in charge of USG, the Executive Council and the Senate.

"I think of myself as the president of USG," he said. "I'm in charge of the every day-to-day things."

But his position is different than Matt Graham's position as president of USG.

"It's basically like two presidents," Dimitriyadi said, adding that Graham is more like the president of the student body, whose duties include meeting with administration, along with a "wide variety of things."

"Ultimately, the president does have a larger job responsibility," he said.

Another problem the students had was the lack of promotion for the events they held during the fall semester.

"I think we do advertising at a

similar level of other organizations," Mazza said. "I wouldn't say we're not advertising enough, I just agree we could do better."

The suggestion of holding smaller events was not agreed upon, however, because it is something that any club can do. The spending target for USG is \$12 to \$15 per student, which was based on the \$300,000 budget. If the target is reached, every student should be able to see more than one event, Mazza said.

Mazza said that small events could be positive, such as the MaMa Art Show that had 150 to 250 people walking in and out of the gallery all night with light refreshments and cost approximately \$7.50 per person. But it could also be negative, such as a hypothetical \$5,000 dinner and dance for 200 students which would cost \$25 per student.

This weekend's past Mocktail party for seniors was a well-designed event, but cost over the \$15 mark.

Doing larger events, such as concerts that no other club can host, "is more fiscally responsible to do those than smaller events," Mazza said.

More of those events will be held in the spring, including an unannounced event that will take place at the beginning of the semester in the Staller center, a feat that has not been done in more than 10 years.

"The idea that USG is corrupt is simply not true," said Senator Tahir Ahmad. "People feel that we are corrupt because they don't understand how the student government works. We hope to eradicate the belief that USG is a corrupt organization from campus soon, and this can be best done by making ourselves more visible and well-known to the campus community."

# Emails exchanged between Nadine Peart and Moiz Khan

Moiz Khan to n, Alexander, Dexter, Eunice, Budget

[show details](#) Nov 24 (11 days ago) [Reply](#)

All,

This conversation has brought to light quite a few things for me.

Firstly, I realize that it is my personal responsibility to establish a senior class committee. I will try to begin and finalize this process before the end of Winter Break.

Secondly and lastly, I should note that, if the Senior Class Committee receives funds on a separate line, the SPA/SAB will not fund any Senior Class Committee events either in part or full. The reasoning would be that this sort of funding would classify (if anything does) as a duplication of services.

Show quoted text -

n peart to mkhan, Alexander, Dexter, Eunice, Budget

[show details](#) Nov 24 (11 days ago) [Reply](#)

Moiz,

Understandable, if the Senior Events do receive funding of their own, it would make no sense for us to receive funding from SPA, you are absolutely correct, however since Dexter has already selected a committee that has begun planning for the

n peart to mkhan, Alexander, Dexter, Eunice, Budget

[show details](#) Nov 24 (11 days ago) [Reply](#)

Moiz,

I actually just looked it up, it doesn't seem you have the authority to make a committee, a since there already is a group of people for this work I guess you have nothing to worry about. Still also, if anyone has the name of who I can contact please do, thank you very much.

n peart to mkhan, Alexander, Dexter, Eunice, Budget

[show details](#) Nov 24 (11 days ago) [Reply](#)

In fact, sorry to bother everyone again, I think since you [Moiz] have already established Dexter as the event planner for the Senior Week in addition to his duties as Senior Class Representative, I think it is his responsibility to do this, which he has already so I think you are set Moiz. Thank goodness no extra work for you right?

Nadine Peart

Nadine Peart to mkhan, Alexander, Dexter, Eunice, Budget

[show details](#) Nov 24 (11 days ago) [Reply](#)

Moiz,

How is that fair? There are students that have been working on projects since the beginning of the year. Why would you take that away from them? And how is it not diverse? Is it because all of the students are African American or Black? There are no Black students on SPA. So by your definition it is not "diverse" are you gonna re-select members for that? There seems to be a lot of animosity in both of your emails all we are trying to do is acquire the budget rightfully owed to the Senior Committee I am not sure why that is such a big deal to you two? Are you trying to hoard the money or something? I'm not sure I understand.

Moiz Khan to Nadine, Alexander, Dexter, Eunice, Budget

[show details](#) Nov 24 (11 days ago) [Reply](#)

I stand by my decision and have already initiated the process.

mkh

Show quoted text -

n peart to mkhan, Alexander, Dexter, Eunice, Budget

[show details](#) Nov 24 (11 days ago) [Reply](#)

And if you do feel this way, why have you all of a sudden decided that it is not diverse? You have known the members of this committee since the beginning of the semester so what makes them no longer diverse and how can you just throw away all of their hard work?

Besides, you actually do not have the authority to do this because in the constitution there is no way to simply remove committee members. They are volunteers and can be any member of Stony Brook University. So technically you cannot do this. It is completely unconstitutional and honestly a bad look for USG.

Nadine Peart

# To Sink or to Swim? Peter Angelo Keeps Swim Program Afloat



FRANK POSILLICO / THE STATESMAN

Mike Turturro and Rowen Covino take a swim during the Adapted Aquatics program.

From AQUATICS on 2

"My theory was that the best marriage would be between my program and physical therapy," Angelo said. "And I got my wish."

With the help of former university president Dr. Shirley Strum Kenny, Angelo was able to attach the Adapted Aquatics program to the School of Health Technology and Management, or SHTM, in 2003.

"I busted my rear-end for that entire year to make sure we were solid," Angelo said.

When Adapted Aquatics attached itself to the SHTM, the budget for the year became \$25,000. This meant that the budget per semester is \$12,500 before paying for faculty members, equipment, mail, paper, phones and other necessities.

The department had to decide the price for a participant in the Adapted Aquatics program. In the end, it was decided that the program would be free of charge because the university students needed to learn from the participants as much as the participants needed the therapy. "We are running this thing on peanuts," Angelo said. When asked if he was going to start charging, he said that would be a last resort. He says he is happy to do what he can to improve the lives of the disabled.

Paulie Piotti is a 10-year-old with Down syndrome and hearing impairment who has been attending Adapted Aquatics since he was 17-months-old. According to his mother, he loves swimming at Stony Brook so much that he carries his bathing suit and swim bag around the house all week long. The program has improved his muscle

movement and his teachers tell him he is the strongest child with Down syndrome they have ever seen.

Angelo is humbled by the compliments he receives.

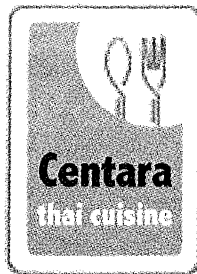
"Take the geometric progression of how many people I taught and how many people my students have taught, we are talking in the hundreds of thousands of people that either learned how to swim or been saved from dying while swimming by something that we did," said Angelo when asked about the impact he has had.

Angelo and his team strive to achieve what they call minor miracles.

"A big miracle would be to get someone who was in a wheel chair to walk again," Angelo said. "But the minor miracle is to get the person in the wheel chair to have hope."

# Centara thai cuisine

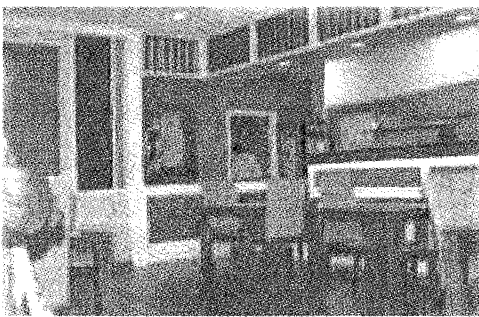
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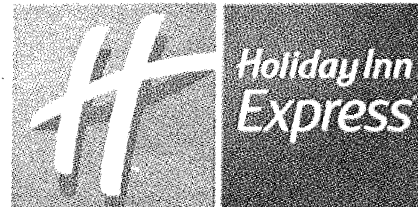
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# The Men Behind Stony Brook's ROTC

BY NICOLE VAN KEUREN  
Staff Writer

While the campus is still half asleep at 6:30 a.m., the Pritchard Arena is awake and stirring with energized members of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps, or ROTC, a college elective with morning physical training sessions a part of its curriculum. Roughly 30 percent of those who join change their minds only a few weeks in to the semester.

Accompanying the eight training members are Sgt. 1st Class Timothy Wiwczar, a senior military instructor, and Capt. John Green, assistant professor of Military Science. All are wearing the same physical fitness uniforms — gray t-shirts with "ARMY" printed across the front and a reflective 'A' for Army on the back and black shorts. These uniforms are more casual compared to the formal "Dress Greens" worn by Wiwczar and Green at the Veteran's Memorial Ceremony held on Wednesday, Nov. 10.

In the center of the gymnasium are four members, including Cadet Emily Hutton, bouncing a basketball to one another. The sound of the ball hitting the gym's wood floor echoed through the arena.

"One to two times a month, they get to play a sport of their choice," Wiwczar said.

The eight present members are only a small representation of the 22 students currently enrolled in the ROTC. Occasionally, sports will conflict with the ROTC's schedule and, according to Green, "they will be worked with either before hand or after."

Green, originally from Tennessee, enlisted in the ROTC while in high school because he wanted to travel. He elected to go further and eventually became an officer. He has been married for seven years and has two sons, one aged six and the other three. His family lives in Michigan and because of his travels, he sees

them only for the holidays.

Since 1987, Green has been on active duty in the Army, where he serves full-time. For the past year, he has been in New York, where he is actively involved in the ROTC on campus.

"I have been deployed to Iraq one time," Green said. "I have also served in Korea, Germany and other places, too."

Unlike Green, Wiwczar is a member of the New York National Guard. He has served for 18 years, a length of time he considers "not long enough."

"I like the military and I guess it would be a combination of liking the military and a patriotic portion of it," he said after an extended pause.

In the later part of the 1970s, Wiwczar had been on active duty in the Air Force. He had been out for 14 years before he went back into serving the Army.

Born and raised in Wading River, N.Y., Wiwczar now lives with his family in a house they built ten years ago in Riverhead. He has been married for 27 years and has a son, 22, and two daughters, aged 18 and 16. He admits that his uncle, who had served for 27 years, had been his role model while growing up. For him, serving runs in his family—his son is currently in the same Army National Guard unit as he is, and served with him in Afghanistan two years ago.

"Having us both over there drove my wife a little crazy," Wiwczar said with a laugh.

Both men are involved with Stony Brook's ROTC for the same reason—to inspire young individuals to be leaders and reach the goals they set.

"When you tell them what their goal is, they naturally strive and fight to reach it," Green said. "It becomes a competition to outrun and outdo more than anyone else."

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## Rallying Rebels: The Radical Student Union

BY ELAINE VUONG  
Staff Writer

The Radical Student Union appears as a mysterious entity—showing up at certain events and not being listed on the university's homepage. Members surface during events like protests, especially those regarding the university, and fliers plaster the campus with a bold RSU headlining. Their influence is swelling to CUNY schools, as well as SUNY schools such as Albany and Binghamton, where they team up with other RSU members and combine all their power against a state government.

The RSU first organized protests back in February, with its main subject being cuts to higher education. These days it has expanded and joined other clubs with whom it shares interests in causes, ranging from rallying against the building of a hotel on campus to raising awareness of bullying towards gays and lesbians.

The group bestowed upon themselves the title "Radical

Student Union" this past October but are not officially recognized on campus. Its logic behind remaining sovereign from the administration is to maintain their freedom by not having any financial obligations.

With this freedom, the activists participate in numerous events with organizations like the Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Alliance, or LGBTTA, and THiNK Magazine, two advocacy groups on campus. These organizations pool together their efforts and act as helping hands for one another, and also participate in each others' events.

The RSU doesn't have an executive board to lead these events, but rather a trio of core members: Mike Carley, Zandy Homer and Jes Rybak, all of whom are Stony Brook University students.

"Access to quality education empowers those who were not born into wealth or privilege, and our capacity to collaborate with one another empowers us to fight for our public universities," Homer said.

"Our main objective is

to protect our university from political, private and administrative interests that consider education secondary at best," the RSU core members wrote in a joint email. "Principally, that means fighting privatization efforts and cuts to the budget. Our organization exists to organize and empower the students to achieve this goal."

A common denominator all the SUNY schools have is the blood-pumping vitality of funding. Protecting the school from outside influences that would put education second to funds is the RSU's purpose. Along with the other RSUs at other SUNY schools, they are strategizing to find the best way in confronting this dilemma as well as organizing and empowering an army of devout students to approach it.

"Cuts to education are symptomatic of a political system that ignores the interests of the poor and working class in order to protect the interests of the wealthiest corporations and financiers," Carley said. "The only way to save public education is to correct the power



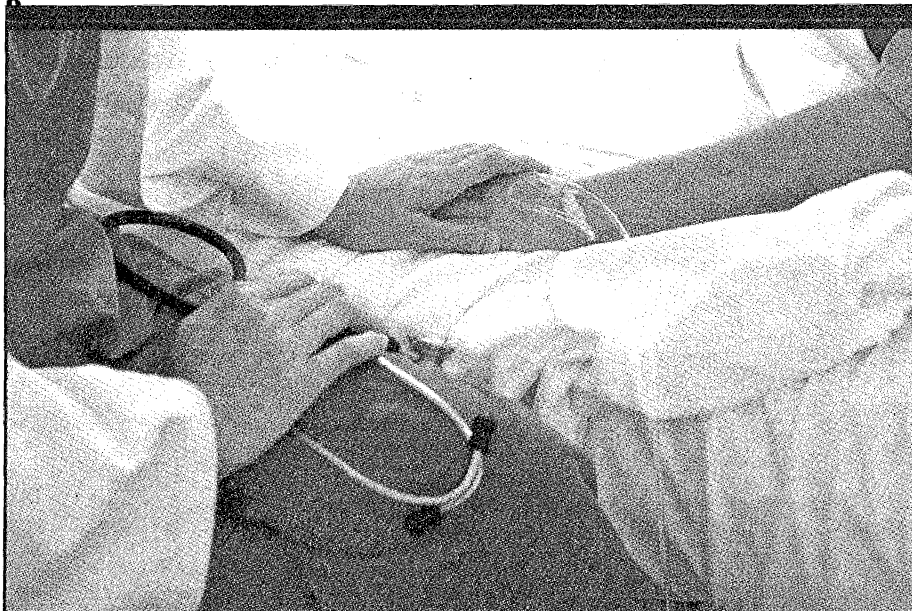
DOO SOO KIM / THE STATESMAN

Jes Rybak, a member of the Radical Student Union, holds a sign at a protest against the university's proposed plans to build a hotel at the campus' entrance.

imbalance in our political system by organizing the students, faculty and working class to fight for their interests."

Aside from partaking in Stony Brook or SUNY-related protests, some RSU members have been a part of demonstrations outside of an academic environment. They've rallied against Rep. Peter King, (R-Seaford) who supports

the School of the Americas, which trains thousands of Latin American military personnel in what opponents claim are techniques of torture to be used against their home countries. RSU activists organized at his district office because King was the only Long Island representative who supported the School of the Americas.



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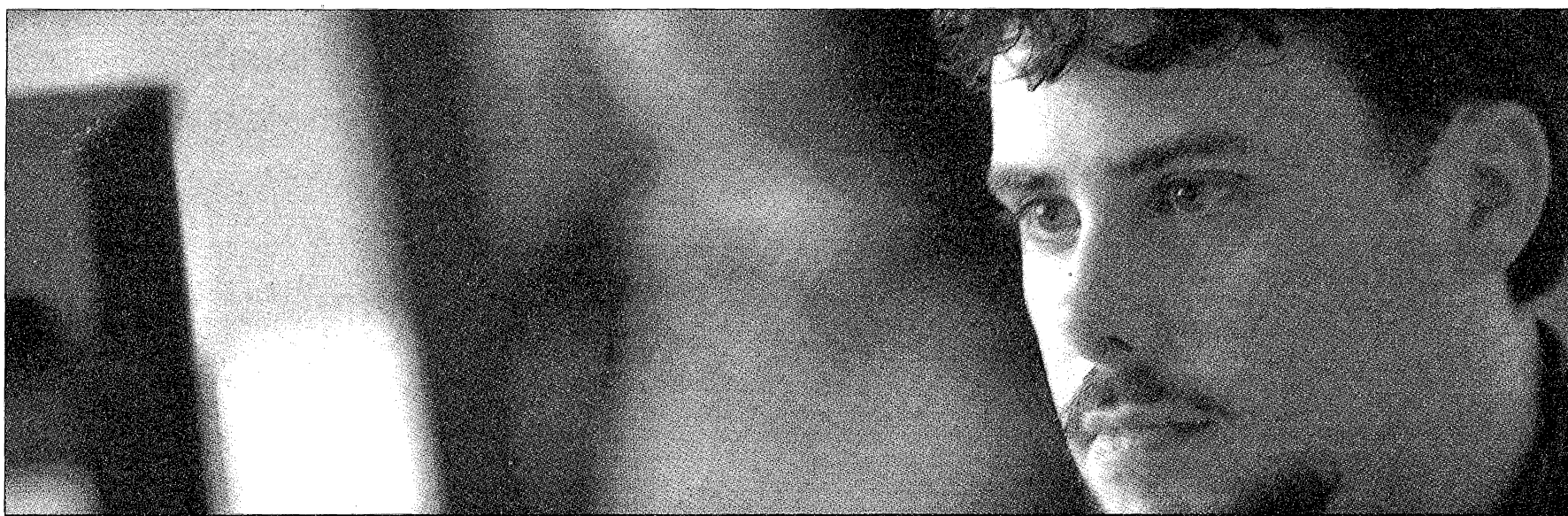
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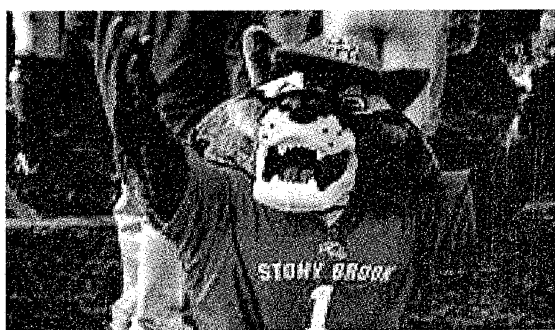


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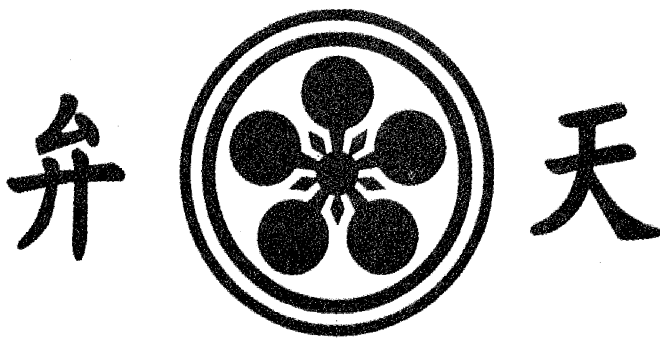
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Background image showing stacks of college textbooks including titles like 'Government by the People', 'Accounting', 'Quickbooks Pro 2004', 'Literature: The Human Experience', 'Development Across the Life Span', and 'Communicate!'.

# STATESMAN EDITORS YEAR END REVIEW



**ERIKA KARP**  
NEWS EDITOR

**I liked:**

- "Community" was my favorite TV show in 2010. I loved the numerous John Hughes references, Troy and Abed in the Morning and Señor Cheng! If you have not watched the show, you should make it a priority to do so over the break.
- I finally saw the Goo Goo Dolls at Jones Beach over the summer. My life was complete after Johnny Rzeznik sang "Acoustic #3"
- Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 1 was absolutely amazing! I have been a fan since the first book came out and I am so happy that those involved in the films have stuck around until the end.

- I had so much fun on the Alternative Spring Break trip to Atlanta, Georgia. It was one of my favorite weeks in 2010!
- Sunday nights in the in *The Statesman* office, complete with Nerf guns, Willow Smith, candy, post-it notes and a surplus of Starbucks.

**What I hated:**

- I was keeping my fingers crossed that the iPhone would come to Verizon in 2010. Maybe in 2011?
- Learning that the WORLD'S BEST BOSS, Michael Scott, would be leaving The Office.
- Lost ending. I miss Jack Shephard constantly crying, piecing together all of the episodes and trying to figure out what eyeliner Richard Alpert uses.
- I don't get the 3D movie trend. It is unnecessary, expensive and headache inducing.
- Turning 20 and having to act like an adult. Well, most of the time that is.



**FRANK POSILICO**  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

**I liked:**

- Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows. It was like the end of my childhood but still awesome.
- Glee!
- Willow Smith
- Gingerbread Lattes
- My fellow editors. You guys make this paper what it is.

**What I hated:**

- Not sleeping. I need to sleep more.
- Last years proposed Statesman budget cut.



**JENNIFER LONG**  
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

**I liked:**

- Inception and Shutter Island
- Taylor Swifts Speak Now CD
- Spain wins first World Cup Championship.
- Tea Party signs
- Turning 21!

**I hated:**

- The BP Oil Spill.
- Budget Cuts
- Jersey Shore Halloween costumes.
- Last years proposed Statesman budget cut.
- My family vacation in



**DAVID O'CONNOR**  
STAFF WRITER

**I liked:**

- Harry Potter 7 and Harry Potter in general.
- New friends at *The Statesman*. Otherwise I wouldn't be able to survive the long nights
- Barack Obama. It's good to be in the minority again. It's a lot more fun to not go along with the crowd.
- Tea Party signs
- Protestant Campus Ministry Bowling Team. You know who you are out there.
- Ron Artes's psychiatrist. The reason the Lakers won the championship.

**ALESSANDRA MALITO**  
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR



**I liked:**

- Multiple gingerbread lattes in one day and the effect they have
- Writing articles for *The Statesman*, including the Southampton series
- Whipping my hair back and forth with Willow Smith
- My Monday- and Friday-less Fall 2010 schedule
- Fun things to do like Ozzy Osbourne concerts, Salem trips and explorations.

**I hated:**

- Not having more lines for the "Like" section.
- The Jersey Shore being in Miami.
- Classes that start at 8:20 a.m.
- Nerf guns on deadline.
- Not being old enough for Robert Downey, Jr.

**I liked:**

- "Toy Story 3"
- "Community" and "Glee"
- The wicked snow storm last semester and having a snowball fight in the ERQ pit
- Working as a camp counselor at Camp KenWood. I met some of the best people this summer
- The Sunday nights in *The Statesman* office, even if there are nights that we don't leave until 5 a.m.
- Spring Break 2010 to Daytona Beach, Fla. There were six of us in the car for 20 hours, but it was a trip I will never forget.

**I hated:**

- I don't like sharing the Big South title... again
- The loss of George Steinbrenner and Freddy Sez
- I don't like where the sixth season of "How I Met Your Mother" is going. It's not so legendary.
- 8:05 a.m. class on a Friday morning. It takes everything I have to get out of bed and into the newsroom on time
- Gwyneth Paltrow's cover of Cee Lo's "F\*\*k You"

**MEGAN SPICER**  
COPY CHIEF



**ARIELLE DOLLINGER**  
ASSISTANT ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

**I liked:**

- Graduating high school
- Turning 18 and voting for the first time
- Becoming Assistant Arts & Entertainment Editor for *The Statesman*
- Watching Toy Story 3 in 3D
- My Writing 102 class

**I hated:**

- Being sick on New Years' Eve
- Applying to colleges and having to choose one
- Losing touch with friends from high school.
- Breaking my digital camera
- Showing up to class soaking wet because it was raining and I forgot to bring my umbrella and was running late.

**I hated:**

- Twilight. Even Voldemort hates Edward Cullen. Just watch the end of Harry Potter 4.
- Nerf Pellets. I'm not going to elaborate on this one.
- Barack Obama. It's good to be in the minority again on how I feel about a politician.
- Boston Red Sox (as usual). It doesn't matter that they didn't do well this year.
- Getting lost in an Italian town and not knowing Italian. Fortunately there were Italian people who spoke English. Otherwise I still would be in Europe.
- LeBron James. Call me old-fashioned, but I still believe in loyalty in sports.

**GREGORY J. KLUBOK**  
COPY EDITOR

**I liked:**

- Starting my freshman year at Stony Brook.
- Sunday nights in *The Statesman* office.
- New friends.
- Republicans winning a majority in the House of Representatives.
- The 'Seinfeld' marathon on TBS the Friday after Thanksgiving.

**I hated:**

- Gas prices going up.
- Torrential downpours at Stony Brook.
- Conan O'Brien leaving "The Tonight Show."
- The annoying pig in the Geico commercial.
- Bicyclists who have almost hit me.

**SAMANTHA BURKARDT**  
ASSISTANT PHOTO EDITOR



**I liked:**

- Turning 21!
- Rooming with Shannon Ramadhin
- My photography business, Smile Through Life, was launched and now I'm taking more pictures than ever before
- Spending a weekend in Washington, D.C. for the Rally to Restore Sanity
- Becoming Assistant Photo Editor for *The Statesman*!

**I hated:**

- Stony Brook food...
- Classes that I have to take that are zero credits
- Being away from family so much
- 3D movies. UGH.
- Finals.

**CHRISTIAN SANTANA**  
STAFF WRITER / COPY EDITOR



**I liked:**

- The Walking Dead: I spent three days reading at least 70 issues of this comic. The show is amazing, too.
- Nerf Guns: Sunday night editing hasn't been the same since Frank bought three Mavericks for the office.
- Dubstep: 2010's been a great year for this genre, if you look past the garbage that bros are all over.
- Reddit: While Facebook makes me hate people I know in real life, this site makes me admire people whom I've never met.
- The Flaming Lips: See them live. SERIOUSLY.

**I hated:**

- "Slacktivism." Case in point: changing your profile picture to a cartoon instead of actually donating to help stop child abuse.
- Banning Four Loko: Though it tasted like pure pollution and gave the worst hangovers known to man, I don't think banning it was the way to go.
- The Ground Zero Mosque Debate: Utter BS. Did you notice that once the elections were over; this "issue" completely disappeared?
- Auto-Tune: 'Nuff said.
- The word "epic": Unless what you just saw or did involved swords, dragons, copious amounts of mead, or a combo of the three, it is NOT epic.

**RAVNEET KAMBOJ**  
OPINION EDITOR

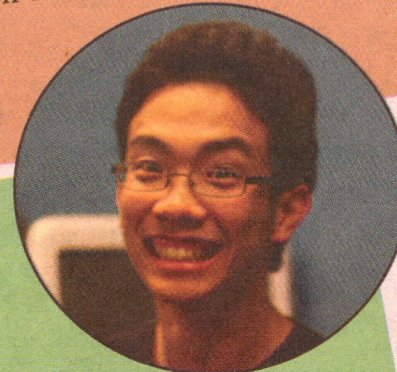


**I liked:**

- Rammstein's new album and only concert in the U.S. in ten years.
- Jimi Hendrix's new album "Valleys of Neptune" was great.
- Inception was a damn good movie.
- Got a German Shepard puppy.
- Got a 1970's reissue Stratocaster.

**I hated:**

- Nerf darts
- Rising lens prices
- Vomit in the hallway
- The price of food in Manhattan
- Wolfienet-Secure



**KENNETH HO**  
PHOTO EDITOR

**I hated:**

- Less classes to register for due to budget cuts.
- No SSC for new club funding.
- The wars overseas are still going on.
- Economy still sucks.
- Ads on YouTube.

# ARTS & Entertainment

## Simons Center Opens, Art Outreach Still Under Construction

By JENNIFER LONG  
Arts and Entertainment Editor

As mathematicians and physicists contemplate complex equations in the newly opened Simons Center for Geometry and Physics, artists and art lovers are still waiting for the Center's art outreach program to be completed.

When finished, the art outreach will include an exhibition space, an art studio and a resident artist. The area, located on the first floor of the building, is only partially finished. Large art pieces are already on display, but the studio is still under construction. The program, run by Nina Douglass, is planned to open in February of 2011 and is meant to analyze the relationship between the arts and the sciences.

The first exhibition for the program involved artwork done by Stony Brook art students. Students enrolled in Theory and Practice of Digital Art: Print, taught by Takaumi Ide, were given the opportunity to submit works for the exhibit. Douglass asked students to create pieces



KENNETH HO / THE STATESMAN

that explored all the connections between art and science, accompanied with a short passage explaining their piece. The exhibition was planned to be on display only for the opening of the Simons Center in early November, but Douglass said she liked the prints so much that she bought them for \$50 each to keep them for the program.

"It's just so different and so amazing to just look at the picture and read the words and many times if you just look at the picture you cannot imagine what the student is going to say," Douglass said. "Then you read the text and look at the work again and you say, 'gee why didn't I see that?'"

Douglass approached Ide for the Center's first exhibition at the beginning of the semester. Ide has held a competition for students in his class for the past four semesters. When Douglass brought the idea for the exhibition to him, he thought turning it into a small competition would work well, as Douglass would choose what pieces to display in the center. According to Ide, 14 out of the 20 students in his class submitted work for the competition. In the end, all of the prints were chosen.

Not only did the students provide artwork for the Center, but they participated in a "real life" learning experience. Director of the Digital Arts minor Stephanie Dinkins said that through this exercise, students learned how to ask for compensation for their work.

"A lot of times in our society art isn't valued and so it's a way to train other people on the outside and the students, that the work they do as creators is valued and

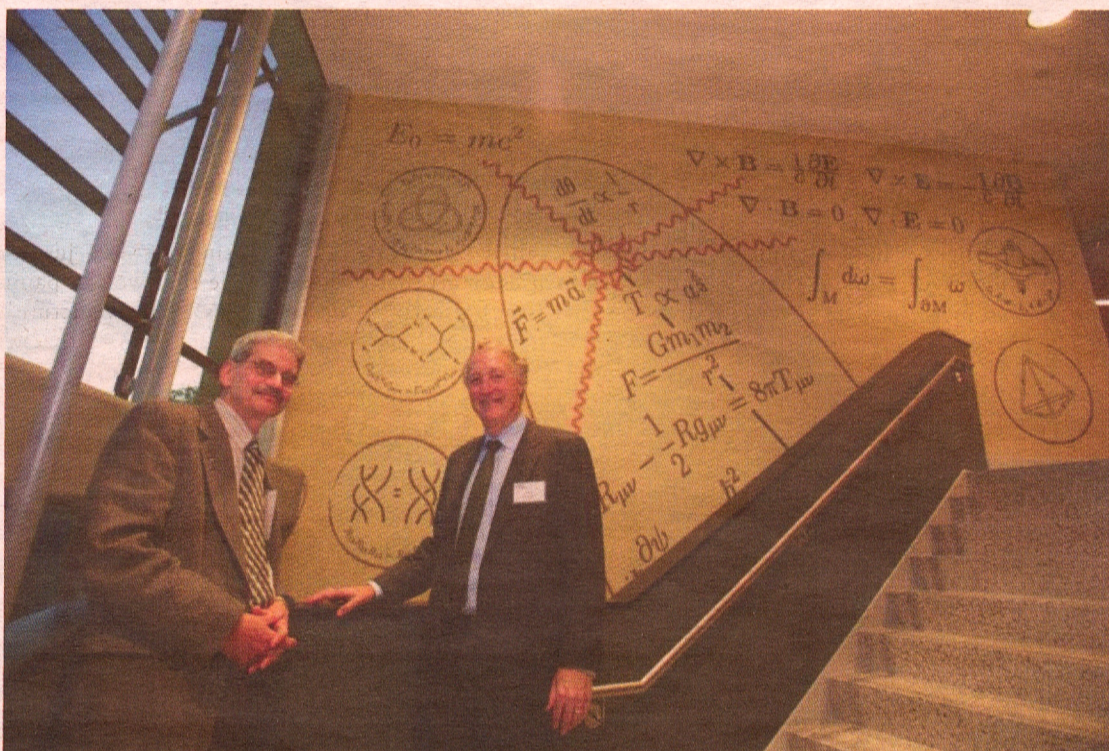


Photo Credit: Simon Center

valuable and so they can put that back into their practices," said Dinkins.

Both Dinkins and Ide said that they look forward to collaborating with the Simons Center in the future. Douglass hopes for collaboration on an even bigger scale. She hopes to work not only with the art department but with the computer science and theater departments. Douglass is hoping to utilize equipment in the Computer Science building, including the Cave Automatic Virtual Environment technology, more commonly known as CAVE, an immersive reality environment created by projectors in a room-sized cube. She also plans to have theater students read the Life of Galileo for the official opening of the

program in February.

"I was thinking that one of the purposes of the art outreach program could be to get the digital arts to actually make connections between all these departments," Douglass said. "Force the people to get together and actually do something and make better use of this equipment because this equipment is going to be old tomorrow. Let's use it now!"

Tony Phillips, the chair of the art department and chair of a faculty board on arts and sciences, is also involved in the building of the art outreach program in the Simons Center. He agrees with Dinkins and Ide that the center will bring more opportunities to students on campus.

"It will provide students an opportunity to participate in

things over there," Phillips said. "There's going to be an exhibition space, there are going to be resident artists over there. Those are things that will enhance the artistic life on campus."

Phillips helped Douglass create a print that stands on one of the walls in the first floor. He checked the mathematics and physics of the equations in the print, but he admits that he got some things wrong, including Kepler's Law. He plans to continue to work on the print to fix the inaccuracies.

As the studio and exhibition space are still under construction, Douglass says plans are in place to have the most up-to-date 3D and 2D design programs. Resident artists will work in a clean studio and digital art will be the main focus of the program.

### Arts at the Brook

**CIRQUE ELOIZE**  
SAT, FEB 12 & SUN, FEB 13

Cirque Eloize, a circus act composed of physical feats, break dancing, hip-hop and theater, will perform their newly-famous show at the Staller Center next semester. In the show, 14 artists, skilled in aerial acrobatics, attempt to make their way through a futuristic urban environment, in the hopes of finding their comfort zones. The act is comparable to Cirque de Soleil. Tickets cost \$38

**MOMIX**  
SAT, MAR 12

MOMIX, a performance company of dancer/illusionist known for its surrealistic performances, is to perform its "Botanica" at the Staller Center next semester. This show animates nature and the four seasons, portraying the beautiful aspects of each, set to a sophisticated and organic musical score. Props, light, shadow, humor, and the human form are employed. Tickets cost \$55

**SPRING AWAKENING**  
SUN, APR 2011

"Spring Awakening" is a Broadway musical set in Germany in 1891—a time when sexuality was a taboo subject. The younger generation is exposed to romance and comes to learn just what it means to be in love. Sponsored by Walk 97.5, the Broadway cast will bring its talent to the Staller Center Main Stage as a part of their national tour. Tickets cost \$42

### Staller Spring 2011 Preview

# Leaving Behind More than Just a Mural

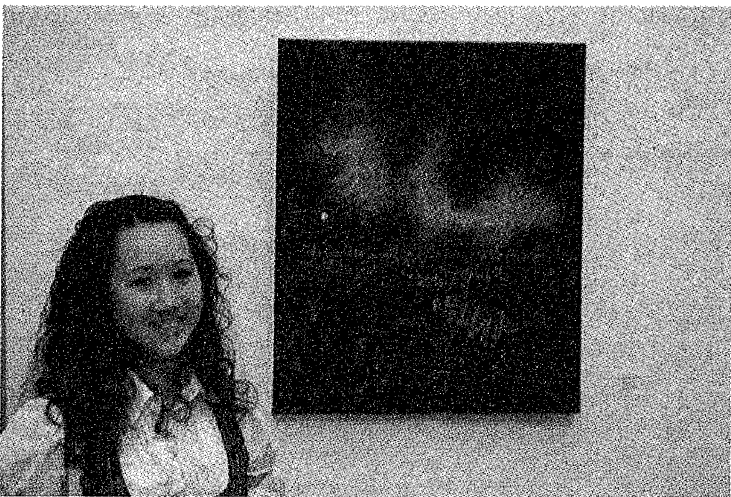
By JENNIFER LONG  
Arts and Entertainment Editor

Just a few months ago, the hallway outside of the University Bookstore in the Melville Library could be summed up in two words: white cinderblock.

Now the wall is full of color. Painted books, including the childhood favorite "Where the Wild Things Are" and Alice Walker's literary classic "The Color Purple," are neatly wedged between painted red bricks. Arches evenly spaced throughout the bricks and books show different university traditions and landmarks. One painting shows unique boats floating in the Roth pond for the yearly regatta, and another shows the sun setting over the Student Activities Center.

These bricks, books and arches are part of a mural that was created by art students over the summer. The mastermind of the project is a soon to be graduating senior, Sophia Dang.

"I really appreciate that everyone can see this," Dang said. "It's not in some gallery where it will be stored away. It will be here forever."



Above: Dang showcasing artwork in the University Art Gallery. Below: Dang working on her arch as part of the mural in the basement of the library.



Dang, an art history and studio art double major, was selected to head the project due to her experience painting murals in New York City. Her past experience not only got her involved in creating the mural at Stony Brook, but also convinced her of a need for an art education a few years ago.

Born and raised in Sunset Park in Brooklyn, New York, Dang always loved to draw and paint. At age 10, she moved with her parents and younger brother to Coney Island and attended New Utrecht High School in Brooklyn. She was never able to take art classes, but in the summer of 2007, after her high school graduation, Dang was introduced to art on a large scale.

Dang started out working for Groundswell, a community non-profit mural organization based in Brooklyn. Dang was assigned to a group within Groundswell called Voices Her'd, which focuses on art that addresses social issues affecting women. That summer, Dang and 14 others in the group created a mural focusing on art being a vehicle for social change. The mural, entitled, "Art Builds Community and Community Creates Change," now stands five stories high on the side of a



LAUREN GANTNER / THE STATESMAN

Avenue in Brooklyn.

"It's using art not just to show people that we can paint, or say 'that's a pretty picture,'" Dang said. "But it shows that art can actually say something and address issues that people might not talk about or that people are dealing with but can't really address."

When the summer was over, Dang entered Stony Brook as a freshman, taking biology and chemistry classes. After some large, lecture style classes and some poor grades, Dang decided to take an introductory level drawing class and an art history class. After thoroughly enjoying her second semester at Stony Brook, Dang went back to Voices Her'd to continue to work in the summer of 2008.

It was that summer when Dang realized her true love for art. She worked with Voices Her'd on a mural at 23rd Street and 3rd Avenue, located on the side of the Brooklyn-Queens Expressway in Brooklyn. This mural was based around female veterans in the war in Iraq.

"When I worked on this mural, I realized that this was a really powerful way to show people what others are thinking, not just yourself," Dang said. "It's almost like you're speaking for those who don't have the ability to speak for themselves."

Dang returned to Stony Brook in the fall of 2008, and switched her major to studio art and declared art history and business minors. She began delving into her major requirements and took her first classes in ceramics and sculpture. It was here that she met ceramics professor Nabuho Nagasawa. This was also the semester wherein Dang decided to transfer out of Stony Brook.

In order to pursue a serious career in art, Dang decided to transfer to New York University. She said that she wanted a school that was more focused on the arts.

"I picked up everything and left," Dang said.

Her transfer did not last long, however; after she received an offer for a position as a resident assistant back at Stony Brook, Dang transferred back before classes even started.

When she returned to Stony Brook, she changed her art history minor to a major and added a digital arts minor.

**"I really appreciate that everyone can see this. It's not in some in gallery where it will be stored away. It will be here forever."**

Sophia Dang,  
Stony Brook Art Student

She's been back at Stony Brook for almost two years now, and knows what she wants to do. Many were happy to see her return.

"As much as I think it's great for the student to be in the city and to have that extra excitement of being in the city and going to the exhibitions, I was so excited to see that she was back and chose us to be the school she would graduate from," Nagasawa said. "So when she signed up for the class I thought OK, this is wonderful."

Dang says she's come full circle. She'll be leaving Stony Brook next spring but will leave behind a mural—the kind of

project that got her interested in art in the first place.

"I'm ending my studies here with something that I can leave behind on a wall for everyone to see," Dang said. "And I think the people who have worked on it too, they're people that I've met along the way and it's something that we worked on together and it connects us."

Nagasawa says that Dang has grown tremendously since she came back to Stony Brook. According to Nagasawa, Dang started with great potential as a shy Asian-American student. Now she will be graduating, but leaving behind more than just the mural.

"I hope the people who worked with her will also have some experience that I think is in a way is more than the actual artwork," said Nagasawa. "It's an experience of working together and overcoming difficulties and communication issues. And I hope that kind of experience is going to be carried on through the people that worked with her. I think that's the most important thing."

One of Dang's art history professors, Rhonda Cooper, has known Dang since she was a freshman, which is when she began working as an intern in the art gallery. Cooper says she hopes Dang pursues her master's in fine arts, and says Dang would make "an inspiring art professor."

Though Dang doesn't know what post-graduation will bring, she knows someone will have to pick up where she started with the mural at Stony Brook, which now spans only part of the hallway. The hope for the finished product would be for the mural to extend the full length of the wall and include other events and landmarks from Stony Brook's history.

## News Analysis: University Budget Cuts Have Art Dept. Struggling to Make Ends Meet

BY JENNIFER LONG  
Arts and Entertainment Editor

With more possible cuts on the horizon, state universities are trying to figure out how to do more with less. But at Stony Brook, one of the smallest departments in the College of Arts and Sciences is finding that hard to do.

The art department, which has only 16 full-time professors, eight for studio art and eight for art history, says it doesn't know what else it can eliminate. Already numerous classes, including sections of Introduction to Drawing and concentrations including a form of printmaking known as lithography, have been cut. Adjunct professors are not getting re-hired, causing class sizes to increase and making the ability to get into them more difficult.

"Professors have been telling us that if we want to sign up for classes we have to talk to the undergraduate director and petition to get in," said studio art and art history senior Sophia Dang. "We have to basically fight to get in."

Over the past year, state universities in New York have endured multiple rounds of budget cuts. Some schools including SUNY Geneseo and Albany have been forced to make significant cuts to some of their departments, in some occasions eliminating programs completely. Already, Stony Brook's budget has been slashed 62 million over the past three years. With the state's budget deficit expected to equal 9.2 billion next year, many fear that more cuts to education are on the way.

"For those of us who have been here awhile we know that it's been painful but it's never been this painful, and right now we still don't see the light at the end of the tunnel," said Mark Maciulaitis, Stony Brook's Director of Budget and Analysis.

For the art department, a smaller

budget means things have to go. For example last year an adjunct professor, Lorena Salcedo-Watson, who is a master printmaker in the technique of lithography, was not supposed to be rehired for this semester. In order to keep Salcedo-Watson on staff, students worked together to organize bake sales as well as artwork and t-shirt sales to raise the amount needed to pay an adjunct professor for one semester, \$4,000.

Students were successful last year, and Salcedo-Watson was rehired for the Fall 2010 semester. But as the budget has not gotten any better, Salcedo-Watson seems to be on the chopping block again, and the two lithography classes she taught are not being offered next semester.

"To have that cut I felt like I was losing out on something that I wanted to work harder in and wanted to grow more in and learn more about because there's so much to learn that you can't by just doing two, three or four projects in one semester," said Dang, who helped organize print sales for the fundraiser. "It was something that I wanted to continue experimenting with and it just felt like something was being taken away from me."

Some art students say they are planning to try and fundraise again to keep Salcedo-Watson teaching lithography for next semester, but it appears to be a temporary fix to what seems like an almost permanent problem. The chair of the art department, Tony Phillips, says cutting different concentrations may be what has to happen. Right now, nearly the art department's entire \$2 million budget is spent on the salary of tenured professors. That means there's no extra money to buy supplies, equipment or even for rehiring adjuncts.

"You have a choice between spreading it very thin, or just saying we can't do that," said Phillips. "For example, we used to have courses in classical architecture. Things like that. We just don't anymore, we just can't."

Even Phillips' appointment to the chair of the department is a sign of the financial struggle. Phillips, a physicist from Stony Brook's math department, was appointed to the chair by Nancy Squires, the dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. One of the reasons for this move was because no one else in the Art department could be spared from teaching.

With the possible cutting of different concentrations in the arts, Phillips says that both students and faculty are scared. With the cutting of humanities programs at Geneseo and Albany, many are wondering if that could happen at Stony Brook.

"You look at the newspaper and you see what's happening at one of our sister campuses, part of SUNY," Phillips said. "But I think we're better than that."

So far, Provost Eric Kaler says that there are no plans as of yet to eliminate any programs. He even went as far to release a statement saying, "rumors of the art department's demise are wrong." He continues "There are many conversations going on around campus about how we can organize ourselves more efficiently, but there are no plans to close the Art department or suspend any of its programs."

But there's still no clear cut way to deal with the financial issues the university is facing. The Art department is getting down to the bare bones of their budget and already has a sizable deficit that it owes the College of Arts and Sciences. With the university's budget projected to be cut again next year, budget director Maciulaitis says some disciplines may just not survive.

"Is it better to cut everyone equally and everyone winds up getting worse and having their budgets cut, or can you identify some specific areas where there are some students here but if we cut that it will lessen the impact for the other 95 percent of the students out there," Maciulaitis said.

## Please Give Zeros in on the Character of City

BY JOHN ABLAN  
Staff Writer

Many New York City-based films tend to focus on prominent sights, such as Times Square, the Statue of Liberty and 5th Avenue. The city is often depicted as America's epicenter of wealth and luxury, as cliché plotlines often depict two lovebirds frivolously spending money at the most extravagant places in New York.

But for those who consider themselves true New Yorkers, many would argue that these generalizations are completely off-based depictions. Independent filmmaker Nicole Holofcener, who directs films that aim to delve deeper into human relationships with humor accomplishes this in her latest film, "Please Give," which features an ensemble cast of complex characters situated in an authentic backdrop of New York City.

The indie drama played at the Staller Center on Nov. 19. "Please Give" succeeds in developing characters, as each role struggles with his or her own moral dilemmas. Each character's issue is not only personal, but reaches a greater extent of family matter. Kate, played by Catherine Keener, and Alex, played by Oliver Platt, both oversee a used furniture store that is highly profitable because they purchase items from children whose parents have recently deceased. Usually, the children have no idea of the items' value. As the film continues, they buy the apartment adjacent to theirs and are eagerly anticipating the death of its 91-year-old inhabitant, Andra, played by Ann Guilbert, so they can take it over.

Kate is a guilt-ridden mess because of this ordeal, and tries to compensate for her own wrongdoing by giving money to homeless people on the street and

doing community service work, which she cannot manage.

Enter Andra, who has moved in with her granddaughters: the benevolent Rebecca, played by Rebecca Hall, and the mean-spirited Mary, played by Amanda Peet. As all of these characters intermingle, each individual's personal issues, from physical imperfections to infidelity, bounces off of the others, and they inversely react to the consequences given their family dynamics.

If a moviegoer yearns to see a superior cinematic exploration of the contradictions of one of the world's great cities, then the choice is "Please Give." This film shows how each character deals with his or her issues that make things interesting in life. And when those issues interrelate to family dynamics, things can become convoluted in both a tragic and humorous way.

This is a movie in which, objectively, nothing truly major happens. The lack of a conventional plot gives freedom for the characters themselves to showcase how they progress, or regress, by the change brought by certain events in their lives. They are imperfect and they don't become perfect, but experience development in their own respects. The ensemble cast gives compelling performances to distinguish their roles from each other, but they complement each other so well that the film is very lifelike and natural.

"Please Give" presents a resonating factor to those who are dealing with similar problems. The city itself isn't much of an emphasis, but the film displays just a slice of two New York families attempting to navigate through life in the backdrop of New York City. Technical intricacies are not the main focus of this film, rather, the nuanced character study of "Please Give" is an identifiable aspect for those who are studying their own character as well.

## Classic to Modern, Wind Ensemble Performs First Concert of the Year

BY MELISSA HEBBE  
Staff Writer

With a wave of Bruce Engel's baton, the Wind Ensemble flooded the Staller Center with music. The night was focused on the theme "Winds and Water," hinting at the ensemble's instruments and connecting with the idea of the two elements. The Nov. 18 performance included a variety of music from nineteenth century classics to recent pieces.

As the audience arrived, the Wind Ensemble warmed up on

stage. As the performers took their places, Engel, the conductor, approached the stage.

"I had a fantastic time," Engel said, "I enjoyed [the performance] immensely; it's a great group and directing it was sheer pleasure. I can't imagine having any more fun for a group."

The first composition performed was "Moldau from Ma Vast" (My Country) by Bedrich Smetana, followed by "Suite from Water Music" by Georg Friedrich Handel. "The Engulfed Cathedral" by Claude Debussy and "Sea Songs"

by Ralph Vaughan Williams were also played.

At intermission, a trumpet player in the group, Joe Piccininni, majoring in computer science, said, "So far, it's going really well. We worked really hard this year, this year especially. It's really a good experience for me. I'm a sophomore and I get to play with a world renowned conductor, lots of talented performers."

Piccininni was referring to Engel who has conducting experience with the Goldman Band and the New Jersey Pops. Engel has also

conducted in Florence, Rome, Venice, Seville, Toledo and Madrid.

"Victory at Sea" by Richard Rogers and "Colonel Bogey" by Kenneth J. Alford ensued after, and they were followed by "Pirates of the Caribbean" by Klaus Badelt and "Selections from Show Boat" by Jerome Kern. The Wind Ensemble ended with encore presentations, including music recognized from the movie "Jaws 2" and "Fantasy on Stormy Weather."

"I thought it was really nice," said John Heslin, a freshman majoring in biochemistry. "I liked

how they got all the different kinds of songs, how they went with the classical music and then they brought a little modern [music] like the Jaws."

Sophomore Kait Gierlich, an anthropology major, said, "It's a wonderful performance. It's nice seeing the students and other people from the community together and playing music on stage."

Next semester, the Wind Ensemble will be performing "Winds of Revolution," with pieces focusing on different revolutions.



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#### WHO WE ARE

The Statesman was founded as "The *Sucollian*" in 1957 at Oyster Bay, the original site of Stony Brook University. In 1975, *The Statesman* was incorporated as a not-for-profit, student run organization. Its editorial board, writers, and photography staff are student volunteers, while its business staff are professionals.

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Disclaimer: Views expressed in columns or in the Letters and Opinions section are those of the author and not necessarily those of the Statesman.

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# OPINION

## Proposed raise in Student Activity Fee *Where is your money really going?*

During the recent USG elections, held last week until Dec. 3, a referendum was on the ballot to raise the Student Activity Fee to \$100 per semester. This would mean an increase of \$5.75 for each student.

The USG supports the passage of this measure. Its argument is compelling.

"It translates to \$80,000 more cash in the bank for Stony Brook Students," a post on the body's official website reads. "That means more concerts, more events and more clubs for you. NEW YORK STATE, SUNY AND STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION CANNOT TOUCH THIS MONEY."

These are all facts, and all important points. But they left out who does have the authority to touch this money: USG itself.

The Student Activity Fee is a vital part of student life on campus. Without it, no club on campus — including *The Statesman*, which gets part of its budget from USG — would be funded by the university.

The amount it is proposed to be raised by is a paltry \$11.50, or roughly the price of ten mozzarella sticks on campus. That money won't break anyone.

Increasing the Student Activity Fee is fundamentally a good idea for all the reasons that USG has been promoting. It is the most direct way to quickly influence student life. If there is something clubs don't

mind paying, it is a fee that they will eventually see in their own budgets anyway.

But an essential question remains: how much of the reported \$80,000 will actually end up back in student clubs?

The note on the USG website clearly states that "more concerts" could be a result of the passage of the increase. But the group in charge of putting on concerts at Stony Brook — the now-USG controlled Student Activities Board — already has a budget of more than \$400,000.

How large a chunk of the \$80,000 can possibly help put on a solid event and leave enough to benefit all the clubs on campus that are hurting for money?

It is important that USG be

responsible with the money that it receives. Last year, nearly \$300,000 was left unused by clubs to which USG had allotted money.

Will USG still be willing to give more money to the clubs that actually need it when the clubs that don't continue to not spend it, or will the senators just pour the majority of the new cash into a major year-ending event?

Clubs and organizations are the factors that improve student life on campus—not one marquee concert per year. The student government should keep that in mind when deciding how it will distribute the added money they are taking from their classmates' pockets.

—The Editorial Board

## Addressing Climate Disruption

BY JAMES CORRIGAN  
Contributing Writer

I attended the first hour of the "Time is Running Out!" debate held last night in the Humanities Institute, held as part of the Provost's Lecture Series. I found the debate depressing, but not because our time is running out on addressing environmental degradation and climate change, as the event's title rightly pointed out.

I found it depressing because the debate panel suggested the same ineffectual "solutions" that are keeping us from making any real progress carbon trading schemes, which are Madoff-style schemes to manage dangerous atmospheric emissions and better communication of the scientific issues while touting the centerpiece of the evening by motivating young people to get involved, which, given the university's recent history, is just ingenious.

I won't address carbon trading. Anyone who believes that free

market Ponzi schemes will solve our problems after the debacle of the last two years is nuts anyway.

I also won't address the need for better communication for scientific findings, since that works just as well for both sides of this issue. Responding to the deniers' misinformation, frankly a crime against humanity at this point in time, climate disruption evidence will only result in further mistrust of either scientific position in the non-aligned public's mind, while it will do nothing to change anyone's established position on the issue.

But I would like to address the motivation of young people that Bowman raised, since this offended me.

Bowman and I sat together at the last Stony Brook Council meeting, during which it agreed to retroactively support Stanley's decision to close the environmental sustainability programs at Southampton, where I was teaching environmental ethics, and move the programs to the main campus.

The administration argued

for the move by explaining that it had to cut expenses due to its on-going budget cuts. Moving the programs would result in \$6 or \$7 million in savings per year once the faculty's contracts were allowed to expire.

Bowman supported this cost-cutting move of the programs to the main campus. The result was devastating to the students involved several hundred who were in the process of dedicating their lives to addressing the issue of environmental sustainability the result of which has seen the majority of them leave this university, or change majors. They were smart people and they got the message: immediate dollars and current politics will always win out over environmental concerns, so why bother?

Stony Brook's performance in motivating young people to get involved is definitely deeply in the deficit column. If this university is truly serious about wanting to get students actively involved, then it is incumbent on it to make a strong and public show of support for the displaced sustainability

majors by properly funding them and making them permanent.

The administration should take seriously the claim of the faculty and students that were involved in those majors. The educational environment in which the programs are offered needs its own home.

I don't speak for anyone but myself, but I see how other first-rank universities are directly addressing the issue of environmental sustainability by either offering comprehensive permanent curriculums or by funding separate schools dedicated to it, frankly Stony Brook lobbed itself back into the stone-age through its recent handling of Southampton.

Bowman is correct; time is running out. So let's get serious about this and stop playing political games and making shortsighted budgetary tradeoffs. They too are a crime, given the dangers we face.

The first step in motivating students to get involved is to show them what real action is. Let's lead by example!

## Guidelines for Opinion Submission

Letters to the editor or op-ed contributions can be submitted by e-mail at Op-Ed@sbstatesman.org online at www.sbstatesman.org, by hand at our office in the Student Union Rm 057, or by mailing it to us at the address in the left column. They must be received at least two days before the next printed issue. The Statesman reserves the right to edit or not print any letter based on appropriateness, length, timeliness, or other reasons at the discretion of the editorial board. Letters should be no longer than 350 words, and opinion pieces should not exceed 550 words. Please include your full name (which we may withhold if you request it), phone number and email address for verification. Phone numbers and mail addresses will not be printed. Letters submitted anonymously or under false names will not be considered for publication.

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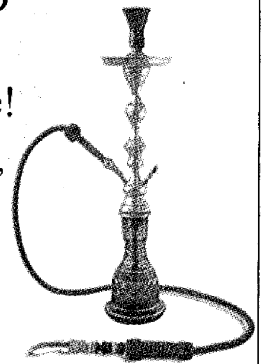
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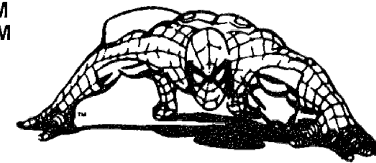
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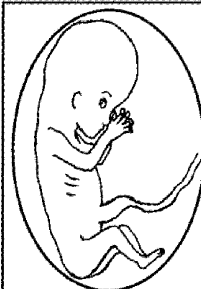
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# LETTERS

## Letter to the Undergraduate Students : We (Stony Brook) Failed

Dear Undergraduate Students,

Although I was elected to the position of executive vice-president of the Undergraduate Student Government (USG), shortly after taking office last May our treasurer unexpectedly resigned. This required that I additionally serve in the capacity of acting treasurer until one could be elected this fall.

At first, I was met with what could be best described as fear, from various student leaders and campus administrators, that the USG would crumble to its knees without a treasurer. President Matthew Graham and I developed a near-seamless plan to address these concerns and a vast majority of clubs have noticed that our service has improved tremendously over last year.

In addition to maintaining the club funding processes, these last six months have given me an intimate knowledge of the USG's financial situation, one which has brought to light more questions than answers. Last spring, the USG Senate appropriated an unprecedented amount of funding towards student organizations: 57 percent, or over \$1.5 million of our annual \$2.8 million budget. I quickly learned, however, that this new baseline for club funding did not come without consequence. The USG's operational budget, which includes services such as event programming

and free one-on-one tutoring, were at risk of running out of funds mid-year without cutbacks. In order to allow for improvement in these services, I condensed every USG operational budget line looking for funding that could be re-appropriated.

After the budget had been stabilized, the USG began to feel the pressure of somewhat opposing goals: the desire to provide more direct programming and services to the student body, USG-funded student organizations demanding more funding, and over 20 new clubs seeking to join the over 160 organizations who receive funding from the USG. To ease some of these pressures, the USG voted to place a referendum on last week's election to raise the Student Activity Fee by \$5.75 to \$100 per semester. In retrospect, however, it may not have been the most prudent of decisions to increase our coffers without first addressing the real issues at stake.

First, this campus is over-saturated with student groups. While admissions loves to boast to prospective students that we have over 300 student-run organizations, how many of them actually are providing benefit to the student body? We have fostered a culture on this campus to start a new organization because of the smallest e-board dispute or the need to pad a resume with "leadership experience."

By allowing groups to multiply

like this, we have established mediocrity as the status quo for student life. If trying to book a room on this campus is any indication, a plethora of meetings and events are going on any given day of the week.

However, a quick stroll through the SAC reveals the real issue at hand: speakers are talking to audiences of 25 people in a room that can hold 80. With so many groups sharing a similar purpose, we have narrowed the audience that any one group can attract.

Second, the lack of fluidity in the USG budget stifles innovative programming. The days of appropriating budgets of over \$10,000 to organizations needs to end. While a select few need to have these large budgets due to the fixed costs necessary for their operation, the overwhelming majority does not. An interesting phenomenon that I have noticed is most clubs frivolously spend a large portion of their budget during the months of March and April. This spend-down is practiced by most clubs after realizing they will have extra money left in their budget at the end of the year.

Is this wasteful spending teaching fiscal responsibility? Hardly. We need to get rid of this notion that in order to have a successful club, it needs to have a large budget. I have seen more organizations do more with less money because they are forced to make decisions about what



purchases are important. Instead, I propose that we place a substantial amount of this misappropriated funding in a budget line for grants, so that clubs may request additional funding as necessary. This lowers the risk on our investment, allowing the USG to dynamically adjust funding instead of it being locked up in a budget line for the entire fiscal year.

Regardless of the results of the referendum, the USG's laissez-faire approach to club oversight must end. We were elected by the student body to ensure the Student Activity Fee is spent appropriately. While I

cannot speak for the past, during my time in USG we have made great inroads in fulfilling this mission, but a lot of work still needs to be done. However, the USG is not the only one responsible for this mess. We, as a campus, have put quantity over quality and this, in my opinion, is the biggest cause for the feeling that Stony Brook lacks student life.

Good luck on finals,

Alexander Dimitriyadi  
USG Executive Vice-President

## Letter to the Editor: In the Last Few Weeks...

Dear Editor,

In the past few weeks, there have been serious accusations made about my ethical conduct and about my competency in the position of Director of the Student Programming Agency (SPA) in general. I am of the opinion that the bulk of these allegations are a result of willful ignorance and corrupt personal interests.

However, as the campaign surrounding these accusations has been made, my only option is to address each claim, provide my reasoning and then surrender myself to your sense of fairness.

I would like to begin by acknowledging a general lack of events programmed by the SPA this semester, which is the direct cause of various factors. Primarily, the SPA is a new agency, without any formal channels of communication to

any entity, within the university or outside of it. In the past few months, I have established or improved relationships between the USG and Athletics, FSA and the Staller Center.

By connecting to each of these entities, I have created opportunities that previously did not exist, such as USG working with Athletics on events and promotion, the FSA on retail opportunities, and Staller on scheduling events. None of this existed before me, and presumably, none of this would have been established if the previous model of SAB continued to exist. While the work I have put into establishing these relationships is not automatically obvious, it will be next semester when we have events in Staller—something never done before—as well as free concerts that would not have been possible previously.

It is difficult to program

large events on a time crunch. Typically, a concert takes at least 8 to 10 weeks of planning. I began in September, and thus it reasonably took until mid-November to execute USG's first concert, which happened to be quite successful. In the time from September to November, we programmed several smaller events, including a performance by Christian Finnegan, the MaMa Art Show, RockYoFaceCase and Humans vs. Zombies. Further, I personally do not think frequently planning small events is the answer to the problem.

There are many small events every single day at Stony Brook, planned by a student club or university department. While it is fun to have these kinds of events, small events should not be the goal of USG. Rather, USG is the sole group on campus that has the ability to plan large events, and USG ought to primarily plan

large events.

To compare to the old SAB, how many SAB events were reported on by the student newspapers? And to the readers, how many of you miss the SAB Dollar Parties? How many of you can honestly say you attended an SAB event in the past few years?

The USG has not planned events according to its potential, but, in comparison, the SAB of old planned no events according to its potential. And I suspect none made it into the student newspapers. Our consistent listing as one of the unhappiest campuses is proof, to some degree, of the failure of the old SAB.

The other major accusation that has been made is that, somehow, I have too much control over the money or decision making within USG. The problem is, when you are one of the very few students doing

anything within the USG, you happen to be more susceptible to criticism. For example, most USG presidents did not do a single thing in office, as such, there is very little to criticize.

Currently, there are about 30 students working together to plan events for next semester. When I began there was one: myself. I have slowly built up an agency from scratch, planned more successful events than the old establishment and have gotten a large number of students involved with the process. Next semester is going to be amazing, and it legitimately required a semester of planning, something that this fall we simply did not have.

Sincerely,  
Moiz Khan  
USG Director of  
Event Programming



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# M Bball: Even good shooting couldn't save Columbia game

From M BBALL on 20

be too much to overcome falling 73-72.

Stony Brook's defense has now allowed 70-plus points in three of their first seven games of the season, this coming after a dominating defensive campaign last season where the team only allowed 70-plus points five times during the regular season.

Dougher had a season high 26 points, but in the end, the Seawolves (3-3) blew a 14 point second half lead dropping their second straight home game after not having lost at Pritchard Gymnasium in their previous 10.

"I'm just disappointed," Coach Steve Pikiell said after the game. "79 points is just way too much for us to give up. You give up that many points at home, and you're going to lose."

The Seawolves held a healthy 14 point lead with less than 10 minutes to go in the game, but were done in primarily by Lehigh's C.J. McCollum who had a game high 31 points on 10 of 19 shooting.

"He got open jump shots, he got out in transition, he made free throws," Coach Pikiell said of McCollum.

"That was the guy, we talked about him for 10 days, everything is run through his hands. We needed to hold him to 15 points and he got 31. That was the key to the basketball game."

The second year guard from Ohio led the comeback scoring 13 of his 31 points in the final 9 minutes of the game and in OT to help Lehigh escape with the win.

The Seawolves started the game off strong, holding the Mountain Hawks to 30 first half points, including only 8 from McCollum. But the defense fell apart at the start of the second half as Lehigh cut the lead to four forcing an SBU timeout.

"When you're up eight at halftime, you either let a team know they're in for a long night, or you let them know they're back in the game," Pikiell said. "We let them know they were back in the game in a hurry."

Clutch shots by Dougher down the stretch kept the Seawolves ahead until the final seconds of regulation when McCollum converted two free throws to tie the game at 66. McCollum would get another chance to win the game but was too strong on a jumper from the elbow.

Stony Brook had multiple chances to take the lead in the final seconds of overtime, but a missed free throw by junior forward Dallis

Joyner (Norfolk, Va.), and two made free throws by McCollum put Lehigh up three, setting up the play of the game.

With less than 20 seconds left, Dougher got the ball in the corner, and with a pump fake got the Lehigh defender in the air. Leaning off balance, Dougher hit what looked at first to be a three pointer, but after a second look via replay it was ruled that his foot was on the line, making it a two, and putting SBU down 1.

"I was hoping it was a three," Dougher said after the game. "I figured I was shooting a three, but I guess my toe was on the line."

McCollum would hit two more free throws to put the Mountain Hawks back up by three, and with less than three seconds to play, a half-court heave from Dougher could not send the game to a second OT.

Though disappointed by the loss, Coach Pikiell stood by his team at the end of the game.

"I like our team," Pikiell said. "We've just got to improve a little bit; we're a few possessions away from having a different record. But this is who we are right now, we're 3-3, a young team, we're still trying to find our identity."

The team now heads to Worcester, Massachusetts for a game against Holy Cross at 7 p.m. on Tuesday looking to break a three game losing streak.

#### Game Notes:

- Coach Pikiell was extremely disappointed with the play of junior forward Al Rapier (Chicago, Ill.) saying after the game that "he was awful". Rapier was expected to be Stony Brook's lockdown defender and was benched in the second half.

- Sophomore guard Marcus Rouse (Upper Marlboro, Md.) made his season debut after missing the first five games of the year with a knee injury finishing with 8 points and 4 assists in 28 minutes,

- Expect minutes for Rapier to go down with the return of Rouse. Pikiell, after the game, emphasized the importance of getting the Rouse and the rest of the rookies on the team ready for conference play.

"I need to get some minutes for Marcus Rouse," Pikiell said. "He hasn't played all season, we need to get him some minutes. I can't take Bryan [Dougher] off the floor. I was trying to get our lineup straight. I'm trying to get some rookies some minutes, get them ready for league play. Now we got Rouse in the mix, try to get him ready for league play so we're kind of juggling a lot of different guys in some different spots."

# W Bball: Crucial turnovers in final minutes



KENNETH HO / THE STATESMAN

From W BBALL on 20

them was junior Destiny Jacobs (Glen Burnie, Md.) with 14.

Neither team would have a significant advantage in the second half. With 5:38 left, Stony Brook led 59-53.

But then the Gaels chipped away at their lead until they pushed ahead themselves.

Two key turnovers at the end sealed the deal for the Seawolves. Iona made all of their crucial free throws, and Stony Brook couldn't catch up.

Now Stony Brook will

proceed to go on a five-game road trip. "We'll get back to work just like we do before every game," Cherry said.

Stony Brook will next play George Mason on Dec. 9 on the road at 7 p.m. Their next home game will be against UMBC on Jan. 3 at 7 p.m.

# HOCKEY: Rough second period sinks Seawolves

From HOCKEY on 20

13:37, and Brian Ruskowski and Tim Margadonna followed with rebound cash-ins 88 seconds apart. "The team takes the loss. Did Josh play a little sloppy today? Sure, but everybody needs to step up as individuals and play as a team, and we didn't do that today," Garofalo added.

Wesley Hawkins would close out the scoring for the first period, when his shot found the net with 4:38 to go. Hawkins was also repeatedly involved in scuffles with the Rams, and earned some praises from his coach: "Wes is a such a valuable player. I appreciate that he defends his teammates and battles hard. But if he's making dumb plays and taking bad penalties... If he's going to the box he better bring someone with him."

The second period saw two more West Chester goals; a wraparound by forward Tim Higgins at 13:51, and sneaky wrist shot from forward Tom Scozza at 8:21. Perhaps the most embarrassing moment of the night however came less than a minute into the third period, as Scozza tucked home a puck on a 3 on 5 shorthanded breakaway. "One of our guys just lost his stick there, and got the puck caught in his feet," said Garofalo of the breakdown. Adding to the team's stress, forward Sean Collins clanged a 2 on 1 redirection off the post with over 5 minutes left in the frame.

Credit the Seawolves for their hustle in the final 20 minutes, as Stony Brook battled back with two goals to cut the deficit down to only one goal. Captain Pete Zarrella led the charge with a goal and an assist in the third, as his keep-in led to a Cacciotti stuff-in nearly seven

minutes in, and a slapshot blast from the point found its way to the back of the net with 6:50 left.

Coach Garofalo was animated after the game. "This is definitely a top ten team," he said, "It's just a matter of whether we put it together. As a coach I'm part of it. I take full responsibility. I'll look back at this game and ask: What could we have done different?"

The Seawolves ended the night with some bad news, as forward Chris Ryan suffered a shoulder injury and had to exit the game. "He'll be fine, he just pinched his nerve a little there," Garofalo stated. "He'll be back next semester, as will Chris Hausel (ineligible this semester)."

"Let me put it to you this way," the fiery coach finished off by saying. "You're going to see a different Stony Brook team next semester."

# SPORTS

## Men's hoops drops third straight

By SYED HASHMI  
Staff Writer

The Stony Brook University men's basketball team lost two games this week, falling to Lehigh University, 79-76, on Wednesday and Columbia University, 73-72, on Saturday, despite shooting a season-best 27 of 55 from the floor.

Junior guard Bryan Dougher (Scotch Plains, N.J.) and Junior forward Danny Carter (Windsor, England) each had 13 points in the loss.

For the second game in a row, Stony Brook has blown an early double digit lead. The Seawolves (3-4) were up by as many as 18 points in the first half, but strong three point shooting from the Lions (4-4) during a 22-4 run brought the Ivy League team back into the game.

Guard Steve Frankoski shot 7-11 from beyond the arc finishing with a game high 21 points. Senior forward Ampin Asenso added 16 points and 8 rebounds off the bench for the Lions.

The Seawolves failed to pull down a crucial rebound in the final seconds of the game, leading to an ill-advised foul by Carter on Columbia's John Daniels. Needing only to hit one free throw to take the lead, Daniels hit the first and purposely missed the second to seal the win for the Lions.

Stony Brook started the game off strong; hitting 13 of its first 17 shots but the offense went quiet soon after, going a stretch of roughly five minutes without a score. A jumper by Dougher before



KENNETH HO / THE STATESMAN

Dave Coley, pictured here against Mount Ida, will be pivotal to the Seawolves turning around what has been a difficult start to the season.

the half sent the visiting team into the locker room nursing a two point lead.

The two teams would spend the

remainder of the game battling back and forth exchanging the lead 13 times. But mental mistakes and missed free throws by the

Seawolves down the stretch would

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## Hockey splits with West Chester

By KYRIL KOTLOVSKY  
Staff Writer

Stony Brook fought out a valiant comeback attempt in the third period, but ultimately fell one goal short against West Chester University Sunday afternoon, losing to the Golden Rams, 6-5.

"We weren't physically prepared to play a game," head coach Chris Garofalo said. "When you're playing hockey you have to be mentally and physically prepared to play a game, and we weren't." Indeed the Seawolves showed their fatigue by allowing three straight West Chester goals, that separated the Golden Rams 6-3 and left Stony Brook (12-8), with too little time left to complete the comeback.

The Seawolves controlled play early, as Josh Goellner's bat-in from the crease at 17:03 and Mike Guerra's sizzling slapshot at 11:00 helped the Seawolves jump out to early leads in the first. The period would end knotted at three, thanks to some goaltending errors by Josh Brand, who shut out the Rams the night before, when Stony Brook won by a 4-0 scoreline at West Chester.

Steve Jones started things off for the Rams when his wrister knuckled off of Brand and in at

See HOCKEY on 19

## Women's basketball ends roller coaster week with loss to Iona

By DAVID O'CONNOR  
Staff Writer

The Stony Brook University women's basketball team (3-4) fell to the Iona College Gaels (2-5), 71-67 on Sunday afternoon, but the damage was done earlier on according to head coach Michele Cherry

"If you turn the ball over 22 times, you're not going to win the game," she said after the game. Cherry was thoroughly disappointed with her teams performance. "We didn't deserve to win," she said. "We were pretty much air-heads most of the night. It's not acceptable to play like that at home."

Cherry is further disappointed by this past five-game homestand in general, in which her team went 2-3. Earlier this week, the Seawolves

fell to Monmouth College, 74-60, and won against Fairleigh Dickinson, 68-51. "You've got to take care of business at home, and we didn't do that."

The Seawolves took the initial advantage in the game, striking out to a 9-4 lead. Senior Kirsten Jeter (Elmont, N.Y.) led the charge, scoring the first four points for the Seawolves. She would lead both squads with eight points at the half.

However, Stony Brook wasn't able to capitalize on their initial strong play, and several turnovers slowed the pace of the game, allowing the Gaels to catch up.

With a little more than four minutes left in the first half, the Gaels took their first lead of the game, 21-20 in the midst of a six-point run. Stony Brook wouldn't let Iona run away with that lead. The two teams exchanged the advantage for the rest of the half

In the second half, sophomore Sam Landers (Springfield, Va.) exploded for 11 points, an assist and three rebounds.

"Other than the turnovers, she played a pretty good game," said Cherry. "She's learning on the job."

What Cherry is referring to is Landers' unforeseen entrance into the starting lineup for the Seawolves. Younger players have had to take up the slack for the injured senior Misha Horsey (Wyncote, Pa.) and senior Jodie Plikus (Waterford, Conn.). Both have torn ACLs, and Horsey will be out for the season.

Landers would finish with 15 points. She is second on the team only to Jeter, who had 16 and a team-high 10

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