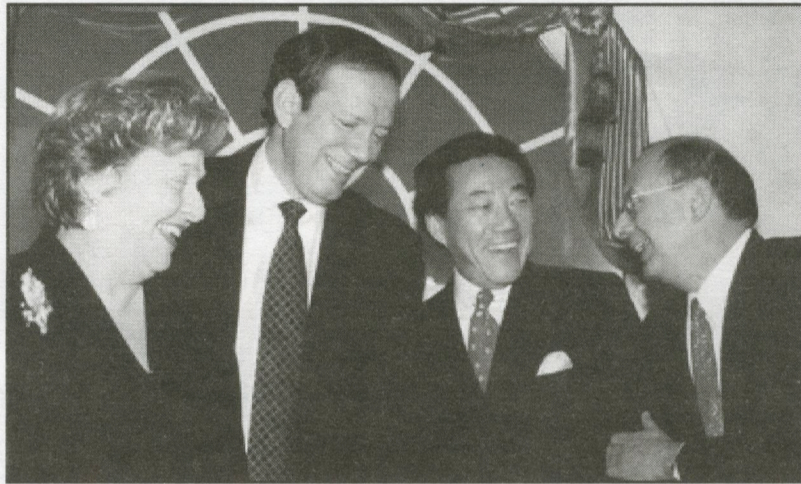


It Was a Very Good Year



President Shirley Strum Kenny; Governor George Pataki; Charles B. Wang, Chairman of Computer Associates International; and Senator Alfonse D'Amato at the Garden City Hotel dinner celebration last month.

Charles B. Wang's Grand Gesture

When Charles B. Wang, Chairman of Computer Associates International, gave Stony Brook \$25 million to build a spectacular new Asian American Cultural Center, it felt like the University had won the lottery. This extraordinary gift is by far the largest private donation in SUNY's history.

In a formal ceremony and dinner hosted by NBC anchor Tom Brokaw at the Garden City Hotel last month, Stony Brook President Shirley Strum Kenny publicly thanked Wang for his generosity and vision. What follows are the speeches President Kenny and Charles Wang gave at this event which was attended by Governor George Pataki, Senators Alfonse D'Amato, Kenneth LaValle and James Lack; Congresswoman Carolyn McCarthy and many other prominent New Yorkers.

A Tribute to Charles B. Wang By Shirley Strum Kenny

I have the very great pleasure of celebrating Charles B. Wang, whose extraordinary generosity and inimitable spirit of innovation will be embodied in the Charles B. Wang Asian American Center, to be built on the Stony Brook campus. The \$25 million building and endowment for its upkeep is the largest gift ever given to a campus of the State University of New York and one of the largest ever given to a public university.

First, let me say that I applaud Charles's good judgment in investing in Stony Brook, for Stony Brook, like Computer Associates, is young, fresh, cheeky, and charged with intellectual energy. At forty years old, we are an upstart research campus, created as part of Governor Rockefeller's vision of rocketing New York to the top of public education. In a very short time, Stony Brook amazingly has reached the pinnacle of American research universities. We are second only to Berkeley in terms of research per faculty member in American public research universities—and we're working on number one. Through our high tech incubator, hospital and medical research, SPIR program, Small Business Development Council, and applied research, we are, and will continue to be, the engine that drives Long Island economic development. Our alumni include such luminaries as Reijane Huai, head of the recently acquired Cheyenne division of Computer Associates, and Dr. Myung Oh, publisher of the most important newspaper in Seoul. Nineteen percent of our current

students and 29 per cent of our freshmen are of Asian descent. We may be young, but we're feisty, aggressive, fast on our feet—and intellectually first-rate. And, like Charles, we care deeply about young people. This is the right place.

The Charles B. Wang Asian American Center will be unique. It will be a place where people can learn about Asian cultures and exchange ideas about the arts, literature, history, religion, language, technology, medicine, business, science. Those interchanges will not be constrained by time or space, for the Center will have the finest technological infrastructure, enabling worldwide communication. We will be able to tackle subjects from Buddhism to beta blockers, globally, in real-time, both through interactive media and by bringing scholars to campus to meet in the new conference facilities. Melded with the superb technology is a building that by its own beauty and functionality nurtures the arts. Much of the message of the Wang Center is embodied in its graceful and surprising harmonies. The light tower will beckon people to come, learn, and enjoy. Outdoors and indoors blend in the gardens, the glass-enclosed food court, the art gallery, the informal outdoor theatre by the pools, and the indoor theatre in which the backdrop can, by architectural magic, be the outdoors itself. The design itself will tell our students, "Learning is important, you are important—the pleasures of the mind should fill your heart with joy." We owe architect P.H. Tuan heartfelt appreciation for his artistic achievement.

This is a gift, of course, not only to the students and faculty of Stony Brook but to all of Long Island and the State of New

From Shanghai to Stony Brook By Charles B. Wang

I am pleased and humbled to speak to you this evening in support of the Asian American Cultural Center at the State University of New York at Stony Brook. Let me say a few words about how the Asian American Cultural Center of Stony Brook came about, and why I believe this initiative is so important. This past summer, I was invited to speak at Stony Brook by the Asian Forum. There I met Dr. Gary Mar, who asked me to help fund the conversion of a corridor into an Asian American Cultural Center. I was delighted to help. And today, that corridor is the temporary home of the Asian American Cultural Center.

But that was not the end. Gary persisted. And in our discussions, planted the idea of a more ambitious cultural center. This was followed by numerous meetings with Gary, Shirley, and many members of the Asian studies faculty, as well as other Stony Brook participants. I also worked very closely with another dear friend, someone I consider to be one of the finest architects in the country—P.H. Tuan, who is here tonight with his wife, Gwynne. P.H. is responsible for the design of this facility that embodies the best of the East and West in a very unique setting.

This project will fulfill a dream of mine. A dream that is shared by many at Stony Brook. The dream is that this Asian American Cultural Center will serve as a catalyst for a host of cultural, academic, business and technology initiatives. It will be an environment that fosters multi-cultural exchange and noteworthy conferences on East/West topics, as well as a place for social expression—for art, music, dance, and cuisine. It will make possible the exchange of ideas about East/West approaches to medicine, science, business, engineering, and many other fields. You see, programs always have a better chance of success when the participants have a greater understanding of one another's history and culture.

The Center will also provide a forum where informal connections and friendships may develop over meals,

beside computers, or at concerts, for instance. It will offer activities that cement lessons and build relationships that can last a lifetime.

Information technology will play an important role in making the Asian American Center the hub of an emerging "virtual university."

Information technology expands opportunities by eliminating boundaries of geography and time. I want the Center to be a model of how information technology can be applied in the service of education. The Center will empower "distance learning" and facilitate a true "university without walls." Fiber optic networking technologies will enable the transmission of real-time video, voice, and data at extraordinary speeds—in excess of 45 megabits per second. These technologies will allow professors and students at Stony Brook and in Asia to conveniently interact and freely exchange ideas in real-time, regardless of their physical location.

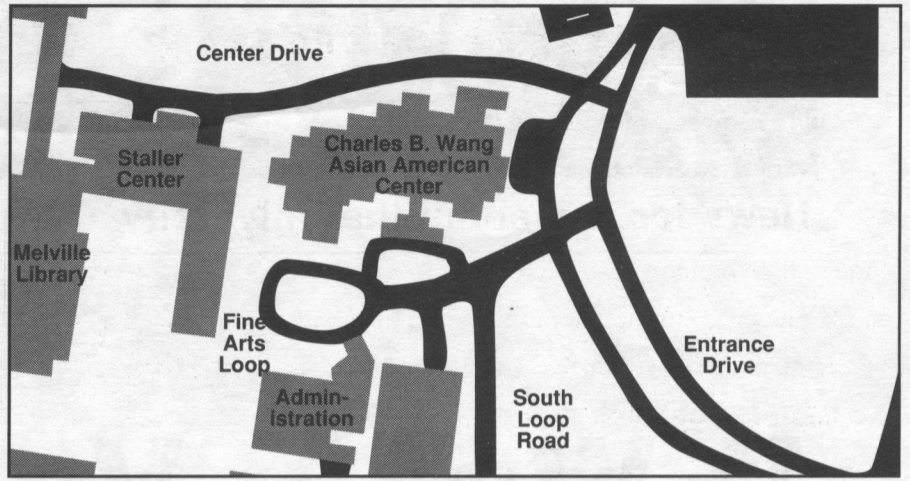
As you know, it's a long way from Shanghai to Stony Brook. But thanks to technology, the world is shrinking every day, and that's a very good thing for us. Because as we all get to know one another, as we get to interact with different cultures and different countries, the walls that divide us begin to crumble.

I also hope the Asian American Cultural Center will showcase and help preserve the very rich, very proud Asian cultures. I hope the center will encourage an appreciation of personal heritage to the same degree that I value my own. As a young immigrant from China, I never in my wildest dreams thought I would be in a position to stand before such a distinguished assembly, in support of a significant project.

I can still vividly remember 40 years ago when we were unable to buy a house in Queens because we were Chinese. Experiences like that taught me first-hand how important it is to focus on all the things that connect us—rather than on those that divide us. I also remember in high school in Brooklyn, when it was a big deal to get 32 cents from my mother for school lunch. The situation is different for my children, and I am glad for that.

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued on page 2)



Top: Back of the Wang Center showing the courtyards, garden, and greenhouse food pavilion.

Bottom: Bird's-eye view of the 25,000 square-foot Center.

Top right: Future location of the Wang Center. Note the reroute of Center Drive and the addition of a second loop to Fine Arts Loop.

Where Will It Go and What Will It Look Like?

One month has passed since the announcement of Charles B. Wang's donation to Stony Brook for the construction and maintenance of an Asian American learning/community center. Now that the initial shock (and delight!) has begun to wear off, many are curious about what the Center will look like, what will happen inside it, and how it will integrate with neighboring buildings. A few are just trying to figure out where the 25,000-square-foot Center is going to fit.

The building site is a yet-to-be consolidated, four-acre plot contiguous with the Staller Center, north of Fine Arts Loop Road. The ground is currently covered with a few trees, a portion of Center Drive, and the small parking area between Center Drive and Entrance Drive. Center Drive will be rerouted to the north of the site and reconnected to North Loop Road. Fine Arts Loop Road will be reworked slightly to incorporate a small auto drop-off loop and additional pedestrian walkways. This new loop at the front of the Center will host a public bus stop, increasing the surrounding community's access and integration.

The proximity to the Staller Center will help emphasize the new Center's cultural and artistic roles. The performance and gallery spaces of both buildings will unite to make a vibrant, creative hub for the University. Located so closely to the main entrance of campus, the Center will present a welcoming and positive first glimpse to visitors.

The sensitivity which the architect, P.H. Tuan, displayed in siting the Asian American Center can be seen in all aspects of the proposed structure's design. Three external features are most notable as a visitor approaches. The main entrance is reached through a sculptural series of abstracted gates. This is evocative of the many gates encountered during the progression into ancient Asian buildings. The "gates" are a brilliant red, a traditional color in Asian architecture, and help direct visitors to the entrance visually as well as physically.

The facade of the building is another striking feature. A tall perimeter wall encircles the building elements and landscaped gardens and serves as a handsome background for the gate. The wall is detailed in a simple yet elegant way using modern building material. The nature of a blank wall, which would ordinarily be too imposing for use in an educational or community center, is softened by the repeating square ports near the wall's upper edge. These ports permit changing views of the building contained within and are mirrored by the cubic gate sculpture and pavers running beneath it. Walled complexes are found throughout Asia, and the layout of the Asian American Center pays homage to these structures.

The most impressive exterior feature is actually an internal structure. An octagonal tower of glass and steel rises 100 feet from the middle of the Center. This tower, echoing a beacon of light, gives the otherwise one-story building a powerful presence from a distance. Daylight is reflected and refracted by the tower's glazing and this changes the structure's appearance hourly. From the Center's interior, the tower lets light stream into the main atrium from above.

Inside the wall, adjoining the atrium, there is an expansive, greenhouse-style food pavilion with kiosks serving Asian foods. From the seats of the pavilion, the gardens and pond, complete with footbridge, can be seen. Nearby are the art galleries, performance and meeting spaces, and a 200-seat theater. The theater's rear walls can be retracted so the natural environment of the gardens becomes part of the stage for dance, music, and drama. There is also a smaller, outdoor theater space on the west side of the gardens. Unexpected views are the product of layers of built and natural forms. The building is equipped with cutting edge video-conferencing and telecommunications technologies, reflecting Wang's corporate identity and greatly adding to the visitor's ability to interact with other institutions and universities.

The Charles B. Wang Asian American Center accomplishes its goal of helping its visitors have a greater understanding of each other's history and culture in both form and content.

(Kenny continued from page one)

York. Moreover, it is a vital message about the seminal importance of public higher education in our country as the uniquely American educational vision to provide the best possible education for students who cannot necessarily afford the most expensive. And we can see no better proof of the efficacy of that system than the story of Charles B. Wang.

I have known Charles for a decade, since, as then-president of Queens College, his alma mater, I invited him to lunch at a little Korean restaurant in Flushing. Since that time, I have learned so much from him that Stony Brook has felt the impact of his intelligence well before now.

Charles Wang is the essential American story that New York knows so well. He, like most of us or our parents, was an immigrant to this country, arriving at the age of eight and attending public schools and a public college. His drive and energy and intelligence propelled him to the top. His generous spirit makes him eager to help other young people. That IS the American dream.

He is, of course, a genius, with a love of technological innovation matched perfectly by his business instincts, his competitive drive, and his daring. He is fast, on the basketball court, in business, in philanthropy. His mind leaps to ingenious solutions. Working with Charles is an adventure in discovering and embracing the possibilities. And above all, he has a buoyant sense of the fun of it all—Computer Associates is filled with the spirit of this unconventional man.

The gift speaks to his commitment to give back. I hope it will inspire others to contribute to public education and help worthy young people get their start. It eloquently symbolizes the potential for greatness that can make our state universities true towers of light. It forges a bond between business, government, and the University that will benefit everybody. It fulfills the Governor's vision of a public/private collaborative effort to make our State strong.

The Charles B. Wang Asian American Center, with its graceful uniting of global and face-to-face interactions, will create new synergies within the University, throughout Long Island, and indeed the world. The concept is both as daring and as creative as the name Charles B. Wang implies.

Charles, this building inspires us, as you do, to think unconventionally and creatively, to reach for the stars, to find the answers and make the discoveries that make life better for people, to give our all to help our students realize their dreams, to relish what we do, to take what you have given us and make it a symbol of all that Stony Brook can be. We will do all those things. Thank you.

(Wang continued from page one)

They have not, thus far at least, missed any lunches. Yet as a successful entrepreneur, there are some things I am powerless to give my children.

You see, the one gift that I would most like my children to have is beyond my capacity to endow. I want my children to have a full measure of the immigrant experience. No experience has been more demanding, more educational, and, ultimately, more rewarding. So while that direct experience is denied them, my children—and your children—will be able to participate in the experiences of their parents on both sides of the Pacific, through institutions like the Asian American Cultural Center at Stony Brook. They will be able to learn what we learned, and hopefully use that learning to build bridges between the Asian and American cultures.

We have much to teach each other, and to learn from each other. There is also a lot we can do to support one another. There is, in the United States, a unique tradition, a tradition of philanthropy on an unprecedented scale. Thousands of individual benefactors have transformed the educational and cultural landscape of this continent, to better the lives of millions of citizens. Many of the most generous philanthropies were founded by immigrants.

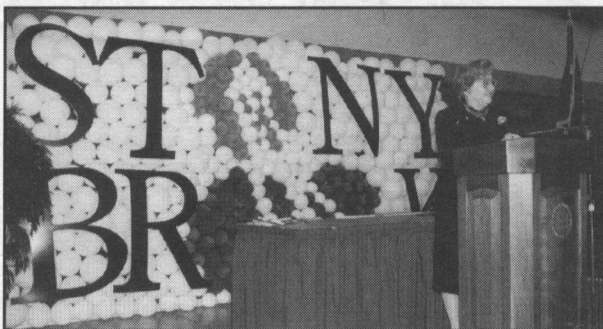
It is with humility that tonight I join in this great tradition. A central lesson I learned from my parents, who are here tonight, is that mankind is well served when everyone does what he or she can, to make the world a little better.

I want to acknowledge my mother and father, who like all immigrants, made a courageous journey to a new land. I want to acknowledge my teachers, who will always have my utmost respect, even if they did not always get my complete attention. I would also like to set an example on the importance of repaying, or giving something back, to the community. Hopefully for Long Island, this can be a catalyst for what the private sector can, and must, do.

Ladies and gentlemen, I look at the work we are about to undertake. My heart is filled with both humility and pride. As a Chinese-American, I cherish the land of my birth. And I cherish the country that gave me a home. I am indeed doubly blessed. I look forward to working with all of you. To make the Asian American Cultural Center at Stony Brook a model of the best that Asians and Americans, studying and working together, can create. I thank you for lending your support to this very important project.

Congratulations, Winter Graduates

On December 8 in Pritchard Gym, faculty and staff, family and friends gathered together for the Presidential Tea for December-January Graduates. In the photo on the left, President Kenny addresses the audience. In the photo on the right, proud family members watch the ceremony seated under a dramatic canopy of balloons.



Imagine Working Here for 35 Years!

Family, friends and colleagues gathered at Staller Center, December 19 to honor faculty and staff who have worked here for 20, 25, 30 and 35 years. A service awards ceremony may sound a bit dry, but thanks to the exhaustive research and writing efforts of Ann Forkin, director of special events, her staff and graduate student Carrie Clark, this event sparkled. Forkin and staff spent months gathering anecdotal information about the honorees who have worked here for 30 or 35 years. What follows are some of the most memorable remarks.

When **Nandor Balazs** (35 years) joined the physics department in 1961, he came from Budapest via Princeton. A man of class, he is known to attend faculty meetings bringing a goblet of red wine. A champion at the saber, when he heard that Stony Brook was to have a fencing team, he arrived with his equipment and brought terror to the eyes of the coach.

William Fox (35 years), professor of mathematics, is known for his great wit. A colleague recalled one of his *bon mots* on one of the infamous elevators in the math building. A stuck elevator could sometimes be brought back to life by pressing the button for the floor on which it was stuck. Bill put it this way, "If you can't be on the one you push, push the one you're on."

When **Melvin Byrd** (30 years) came to the campus as a young 18-year-old, he was headed for the gym for an interview for a position with the grounds crew. Making his way through the campus in a pouring rain, he overshot the gym and ended up at the commissary. Not wanting to waste the trip, he interviewed for a position with central receiving and has been there ever since.

Paul Grannis's (30 years) quiet and energetic manner helped steer a collection of young and senior workaholics to a final success—the discovery of the top quark, the last miss-

ing building block of the standard model of nature. During his heavy schedule, people often wondered if he had been cloned, since he was often seen in several places at once: a Saturday top quark meeting, his office answering hundreds of E-mail complaints and messages, and painting the front door of his antique house in Stony Brook.

Chemistry professor **Albert Haim** (30 years) has led a cosmopolitan life, having spent years in Turkey, France, and Uruguay before coming to the United States. His voice only barely shows traces of these prior episodes, but Albert himself is keenly aware of them. A few years ago when he was the master of ceremonies at a chemistry department party, the first of the afterdinner speakers was an Englishman who made a fine speech in beautiful Oxford-English. After he finished Albert took over the mike, sighed wistfully and said, "I wish I had your accent."

Jack Mullen (30 years), a campus residence plumbing expert, knows how to rise to a challenge. Some time ago, a grease trap overflowed underneath one of the Roth Quad buildings. Jack had the disagreeable job of crawling through inches of foul water. When official help finally arrived, Jack had already fixed the problem and was in the crawl space...singing. As he emerged, people kept their distance because of the unpleasant aroma he exuded. Jack willingly included himself in the subsequent hose down.

When the decision was made to introduce campus-wide electronic mail, **Jeanne Pryor** (30 years), of the President's office, had never used a computer. Colleagues remember how she amazed everyone by teaching herself the workings of the automation project, then working with the zeal of a missionary to teach faculty and staff how to use it. Jeanne will be remembered as a pioneer and master of the revolution in inter-office communications.

Colleagues remember back in the '70s, when calcula-

tions clerk **Lillian Reynolds** (30 years), would waltz into the office with a different hairstyle and hair color almost every day, thanks to the wigs that were in vogue then.

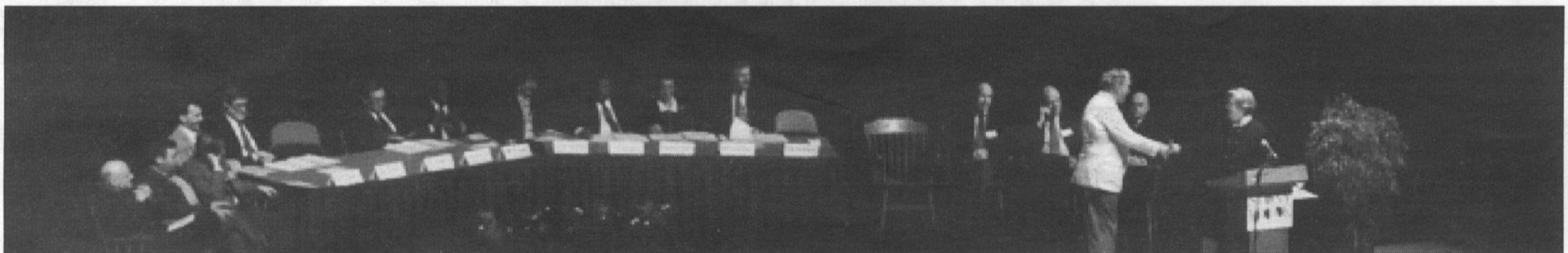
Judy Salzmann (30 years) was the first female computer operator in the division of information technology. Back then when dress codes were more conservative, Judy had to get permission from the computing center director before she could wear slacks to work in rooms that were typically air conditioned down to 65 degrees. Today Judy is in charge of three shifts of operators consisting almost entirely of women.

In residential operations, **Tom Spector's** (30 years) colleagues say that his favorite saying is 'I'm not myself today.' On one occasion, Tom finished painting a room and stepped back to admire his work. Upon inspection, his supervisor asked why he had painted only three of the four walls. Tom said, "I'm not myself today." A devoted family man, he will soon retire so he can work on projects and "not be himself" at home...

When Stony Brook was recruiting **Frank Yang** (30 years) as the Albert Einstein Professor and founder of the Institute for Theoretical Physics, the rules required twenty recommendations from referees more distinguished than the candidate. When no one more distinguished than Yang could be found, the powers that were (at the time) concluded quite sensibly that he was the best person for the position.

You Won't Believe This...

Thirty-five years ago when the campus was in Oyster Bay and the current campus was being built, an article in the *Statesman* said the design of the new campus would "fit in with the colonial architecture of Stony Brook, whose reconstructed village is well known. No building will stand more than three stories tall and all will be of red brick with modified columns." Clearly, these plans went the way of Lillian Reynold's wigs.



The 1996 Service Awards Ceremony in Staller Center. As recipients accepted their awards, a photograph of each, taken the first year they worked at Stony Brook, was shown on a large screen on stage.

Service Awards Recipients

★ 35 Years ★

Nandor Balazs
William Barcus
Robert Cess
Robert de Zafra
William Fox
Peter Kahn
E. D. Lahey
Edward O'Brien

Paul Grannis
Albert Haim
Gilbert Hanson
Stewart Harris
Shi Ming Hu
Frank Kost
Jurgen Krause
Abraham Krikorian
Herman Lebovics
Bernard Licata
Raymond Maniuszko
James McKenna

Arnold Wishnia
C. N. Yang
Dieter Zschock

★ 25 Years ★

Philip Allen
David Allison
Barbara Baskin
Carole Blair
Malcolm Bowman
David Colflesh
Brenda Coven
Nicholas Delihias
David Dilworth
Steven Englebright
Richard Feinberg
Milton Fred
Philius Garant
Patricia Gemmelli
Gail Habicht
Patrick Herley
Dick Howard
Robin Johnson
Shirley King
Angela Krass
Bernard Lane
Robert Lefferts

Martin Liebowitz
Milton Lodge
James Lukens
Bernard Maskit
Stuart McLaughlin
Raghupathy Sarma
George Tortora
William Van der Kloot
Peter Winkler

★ 20 Years ★

Arnold Benedetto
Charles Bowman
Oscar Bradwell
Delores Brajevich
Toby Buonagurio
Peter Burke
Alfredo Carlo
Edward Carr
Edward Casey
Robert Christiansen
Clive Clayton
Ira Cohen
Mari Cullinan
Natalie Damiani
Roger Dee
Flavia Diaz

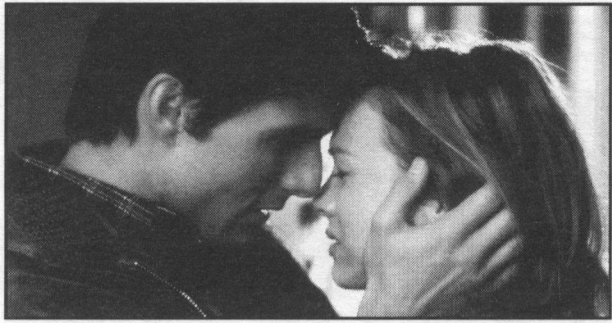
Jean Dietz
Barbara Duda
Jerry Edwards
Sandra Farina
Seymour Friedman
Maria Genao
Debra Gillers
Steveion Griffin
Edward Grillo
Grace Hardy
Bronwen Heuer
Marjorie Higgins
Marilyn Hildebrand
Wade Hoover
Mae Hultin
Adam Hurewitz
Dorys Johnson
Marthiner Johnson
Aldustus Jordan
Joanne Joy
Robert Kann
Winston Kerr
Eleanor Kra
Elaine Leffert
Joseph Lehecka
Julius Levine
Robert Liebermann
Eric Maas

Thelma Magaliff
Frances McLeod
Gertrude McMullan
Annette Mercuri
Sidonie Morrison
Hubert Nixon
Edward O'Connell
Hope Olinsky
Burton Pollack
Helen Redding
Shirley Romans
Monica Roth
Susan Rudnick
Alan Ryder
Nisson Schechter
Patricia Schery
Marion Schlee
Rosemarie Sciales
Joseph Sclafani
Gerald Shephard
Thomas Shepherd
Jerrold Stein
Terri-Lynn Theisen
Linda Tseng
Francis Turano
Claretta Watts
Karen Weisberg
Lucy Wilson

★ 30 Years ★

Arthur Ammann
Samuel Baron
Donna Barrington-Stotsky
Anthony Bastin
Edward Beltrami
Mary Bernero
Mary Bruno
Melvin Byrd
Ann Carvalho
Chi Tsong Chen
Gaetano D'Angelo
Harvey Farberman
Martin Freundlich
Gabiella Fuchs-Burge
Herbert Gelernter

Linda Misa
John Mullen
Gerald Nelson
Hwa-Tung Nieh
Kirstine Nogiewich
Donald Petrey
Jeanne Pryor
Frances Randall
Lillian Reynolds
Judith Salzmann
Kenneth Short
David Smith
Thomas Spector
Arnold Strassenburg
James Tasi
Steven Wainio



Renee Zellweger and Tom Cruise in the film, Jerry Maguire.

So You Want to Be A Movie Critic

Throughout the year Staller Center will be showing free, sneak previews of major motion pictures even before the critics get to see them. The first sneak preview in December was of the film, *Jerry Maguire*, starring heart-throb Tom Cruise.

Hogan Communications, a Los Angeles-based company that conducts sneak previews of major films "approached us because we have this beautiful facility—a 40-foot screen and 1000 seats," says Alan Inkles, Director of Staller Center.

"There's no set schedule for the previews. Hogan calls us about two or three weeks before and we try to get the word out via e-mail, an ad in the *Statesman*, and our web site. We are going to try to show the sneak previews on Friday nights before our regular film feature."

Hogan pays a small fee to show the film. Sometimes the company sends posters and other free promotional materials for the audience. About 10 percent of the audience is asked to fill out cards with general questions about the film. The cards are sent back to the film's distributor. "They want to get a good feeling for how the audience responds, and sometimes this is a way to get the word out about a good film."

Environmental Health and Safety Awards

The Strong, The Brave, The Few
(and half of them are women)

The Department of Environmental Health and Safety does everything from putting out fires (literally and figuratively), to catching pesky rodents, removing radioactive materials, and cleaning toxic spills. Composed of 39 men and women, under the direction of Leo De Bobes, the department makes sure we all have a safe and healthy place to work.

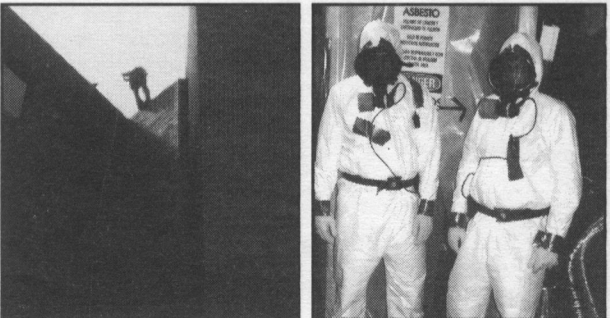
"One of our claims to fame," says DeBobes, "has always been our strong hazardous materials response capability whether it's indoor air quality monitoring or emergency response to highly toxic spills. The dangers of hazardous materials are truly life threatening. Our job is to quietly and effectively prevent hazards before they occur, and to respond when they do happen. Try to imagine doing heavy labor while wearing a space suit and a 30 pound pack on your back, then you'll know our secret for weight reduction."

The annual Safety Awards Ceremony held last month honored a number of individuals in this department for outstanding effort, commitment and, in some cases, bravery.

The Stony Brook Volunteer Ambulance Corps received the Chief William Schulz Memorial Award for its tremendous dedication. "One of the strongest campus-based EMS services in the country, and one of very few operating at the ALS level, the Corps responds to hundreds of emergencies every year," says DeBobes. "What differentiates them from many in the area is that they take turns standing by on their own time to be sure there is always an in-house duty crew. The Corps is always quick to assist in any type of emergency and is one of the strongest allies the Department has."

The Educational Achievement Award went to Kathy Terwilliger, Manager of Industrial Hygiene. Honorable Service Awards went to Michael Tom, Christine Blanco, Farrukh Zaidi, Paula Schacter, and Lisa Hirschorn for consistent action in providing emergency medical care.

The Grand Cordon Departmental Citation went to eight individuals for successfully dealing with and putting out the fire that occurred last April in the Long Island State Veterans Home, due to a power outage caused by a major storm. Award recipients included Fire Marshals Greg Perricone, Jim Dwan, and Chris Mehrman, Assistant Directors Maureen Kotlas and Gary Kazzmarydzk, EH&S Coordinator Rowena Aquino, Safety Training Specialist Jim Grimaldi, and Waste Management Coordinator Jose Rodriguez.



Left: Assistant Director Maureen Kotlas rappels seven stories from the roof of the Graduate Chemistry building as part of her rescue training exercise. Right: Asbestos handlers John Terry (L) and Dan Mazza (R) in full protective equipment for asbestos abatement. Behind them is the entrance to a containment they have built.

New Treatment for Seasonal Depression Being Tested

Dr. David Schlager, Assistant Professor of Psychology, is currently testing a new treatment for seasonal depression, a syndrome that leaves people feeling depressed and lethargic every fall and winter. People tend to sleep a lot, eat more carbohydrates, have little energy, and feel gloomy. When spring arrives, the symptoms go away. "Some people experience mild changes, while others are unable to function," says Schlager who specializes in the study of winter depression and biological rhythms. "This syndrome is much more common in women of reproductive age and tapers off upon menopause."

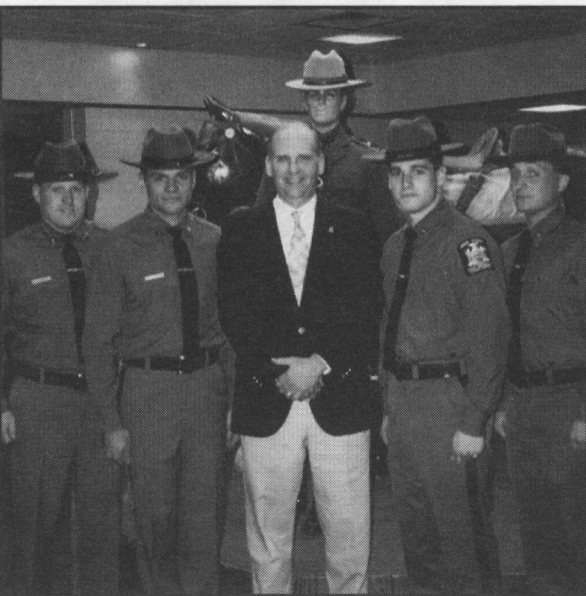
Therapy utilizing artificial light can alleviate the symptoms, but it is impractical and expensive. "It works by presenting the brain with bright light for about 45 minutes before sunrise on dark winter mornings," says Schlager. "Many studies show that the negative symptoms have been reversed in a couple of days." But to achieve the anti-depressant affects, you need a specially constructed light box that costs around \$400, and you have to be willing to get up every morning in the dark for your daily dose of artificial sunshine. If you stop the lights, the syndrome comes back within a week.

"A winter vacation to a warm climate brings about a quick, but short-lived remission," says Schlager. "A person will be fine within a day or two of reaching a warm climate, then slip back a couple of days upon return."

Help in the form of a "light pill" may be on the way. (The use of conventional anti-depressants has not been thoroughly evaluated.) "We're testing Propranolol, a medication that has been around for decades, and has many uses, including suppressing melatonin secretion," says Schlager. "We think that timed administration of this medicine creates an artificially early sunrise and thus tricks the brain into thinking it's summer. I've studied this medicine with volunteers for four years. Our studies show that it's more convenient and less expensive than light. Melatonin is the hormonal messenger for darkness or nighttime—the brain's way of letting the whole body know it's night. Obviously one of the responses to night is sleepiness. During long, winter nights, melatonin is secreted for longer periods of time. In summer it's secreted for shorter periods of time. The duration of the secretion is the hormonal signal of the time of year. By artificially shortening the secretion of melatonin, you create an artificially short night summer signal."

Why does this syndrome occur in the first place? According to Schlager, conventional theory has suggested that it's because we live in windowless, artificially lighted houses and offices and are deprived of healthy amounts of light in the winter. "But in reality, I believe it's probably a left-over behavioral adaptation from times past, when fattening up in the autumn and sleeping through the winter helped people survive periods of cold and food shortage. In fact, rather than it being a disorder of modern environments, it may be a mismatch between behaviors suited for pre-agricultural lifestyles and modern year-round responsibilities."

If you think you suffer from this syndrome and would like a free evaluation, call Dr. Schlager at 444-1004. Even if you don't want to be in a study, still feel free to call. Dr. Schlager is interested in talking to anyone who thinks he or she might have this condition. The results of Schlager's first study were published in the *American Journal of Psychiatry*.



Five Suffolk residents, all recent graduates of the New York State Public Safety Officers Training Program, have joined the Police Department at Stony Brook. Left to right, are Michael J. Muller of Center Moriches, Brian Tisdall of Commack, Richard M. Young, Director of University Police; Bruce Rowland of Mastic Beach, Edward Dowd of Shoreham and Hugh Hawkins of Lindenhurst.

Applications for Alumni Association Student Cash Awards Available

Each year the Alumni Association presents a variety of cash awards to outstanding undergraduate and graduate students. Applications for 12 different awards are available in Alumni Affairs, campus residences, Sports Complex, Student Union, Commuter Student Affairs, Health Science Center, and Administration lobby. The deadline for receipt of applications is Monday, February 17.

Calendar

Thursday 1/23

Howard Hughes Medical Institute Undergraduate Research Fellow Award Ceremony, Life Sciences Building, Room 434, 4:00 p.m. R.S.V.P. David Bynum, 632-9750.

Friday 1/24

"Looking For Richard." Staller Center for the Arts 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$4 for general admission and \$3 for students, seniors, and children under 12. Al Pacino's cinematic ode to Shakespeare's *Richard III*. Rated R. For tickets and additional information, contact the Staller Center Box Office, 632-7230.

Friday 1/24

"Cemetery Man." Staller Center for the Arts 9:00 p.m. Tickets are \$4 for general admission and \$3 for students, seniors, and children under 12.

Fuse comic book hip with Baroque Italian horror, poetry with sex and zombies, you'll have Michele Saiivi's "Enchanted Garden." Rated R. For tickets and additional information, contact the Staller Center Box Office, 632-7230.

Saturday 1/25

"Three Lives and Only One Death." Staller Center for the Arts 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$4 for general admission and \$3 for students, seniors, and children under 12. Marcello Mastroianni portrays four different men who inhabit the same body in Raul Ruiz's sexy, absurdist romp. Unrated (but we suggest R). For tickets and additional information, contact the Staller Center Box Office, 632-7230.

Sunday 1/26

"Small Wonders." Staller Center for the Arts 4:00 p.m. Tickets are \$4 for general admission and \$3 for students, seniors, and children under 12. The Oscar-nominated documentary about violin teacher Roberta Guaspari-Tzavaras as she inspires her East Harlem students to master their lives as well as their instruments. Rate G. For tickets and additional information, contact the Staller Center Box Office, 632-7230.

Sunday 1/26

"Blush." Staller Center for the Arts. 6:00 p.m. Tickets are \$4 for general admission and \$3 for students, seniors, and children under 12. Two friends, both "re-educated" prostitutes following China's Communist revolution, love the same man. In Cantonese with English subtitles. Rated R. For tickets and additional information, contact the Staller Center Box Office, 632-7230.

Monday 1/27

"Pediatric and Adolescent Gynecology." Community Room, Lower Level, Emma S. Clark Memorial Library, 120 Main Street, Setauket. 7:00 p.m. Kristi VanNostrand, M.D., will speak as part of an ongoing lecture series sponsored by the Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductive Medicine. Please pre-register by calling 516-941-4080 Ext. 1.

Monday 1/27

Stony Brook Chorale Auditions. Room 0113, Music Building, 7:30 p.m. Please bring a prepared song in any style with an extra copy for our accompanist. Members must be able to read music although great sight-reading is not required. For more information, contact Dr. Mount, 632-7329.

Tuesday 1/28

"Everglades to Estuaries: Advocating for the Marine Environment." Room 120, Endeavor Hall. 6:00 p.m. The Long Island Chapter of the Women's Aquatic Network hosts Ms. Sarah Chasis, Senior Staff Attorney of the Natural Resources Defense Council. For more information, contact Su Sponaugle at 632-8693.

Wednesday 1/29

"Earfest II: Festival of Tape Music." Recital Hall of the Staller Center for the Arts. 8:00 p.m. Beat back the winter blahs with unique sonic visions from established and emerging composers. Lighthearted commentary from Dan Weymouth, the Music Department's Computer Music Director, will make this electric concert a great time. The concert is free. Donations are accepted at the door. For more information, contact Professor Dan Weymouth at 632-7330.

Friday 1/31

"Romeo and Juliet." Staller Center for the Arts. 9:00 p.m. Tickets are \$4 for general admission and \$3 for students, seniors, and children under 12. The exciting new current-day version of Shakespeare's tragic love story. Rated PG-13. For tickets and additional information, contact the Staller Center Box Office, 632-7230.

H A P P E N I N G S

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