

HAPPENINGS

FACULTY / STAFF / FRIENDS NEWSLETTER

STONY
BROOK
STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

VOLUME 5, NO. 9 SEPTEMBER 2, 1998

Save the date!

University Convocation

October 8

4 p.m.

Staller Center

Recital Hall

Reception to follow

New Research Center Is First in Region

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) has awarded University Hospital and Medical Center a grant to establish a General Clinical Research Center (GCRC), the first on Long Island. There are approximately 74 funded GCRCs in the United States.

"Clinical research" is research done with patients to yield information on the mechanisms of disease and to test new treatments. Clinical research projects already slated to use the Center are those targeting Lyme disease, AIDS, diabetes, cancer, mental illness, and substance abuse.

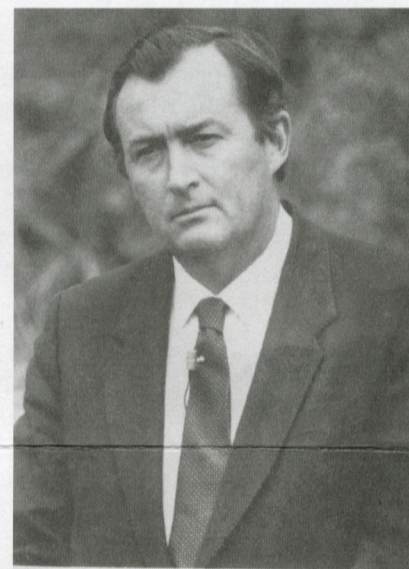
Funded by the NIH at more than \$1 million per year for three years, the grant will provide support services—such as nursing staff, dietitian, and biostatistician, as well as specialized laboratory facilities—for faculty and staff who are engaged in clinical research. A key component of the grant is the recruitment and retention of women and minorities as study participants. Historically, these groups have been underrepresented in medical research.

"The GCRC will provide the infrastructure for vigorous growth in clinical research at Stony Brook," says Norman H. Edelman, M.D., vice president for health sciences and principal investigator for the University's GCRC. "This award recognizes the great strengths and opportunities that exist here. We take pride that Stony Brook now emerges into the top echelon of NIH-supported clinical research centers."

Marie C. Gelato, M.D., professor of medicine and GCRC program director, says, "This multidisciplinary, multifaceted program allows clinical research to go, literally, from bench to bedside. It is the link between basic science and health science."

Richard Leakey to Speak Oct. 7

Mark your calendar: noted paleo-anthropologist and conservationist Richard E. F. Leakey will speak Wednesday, October 7, 5:30 p.m., on the Staller Center's Main Stage.



Richard E. F. Leakey, anthropologist, author, and activist.

Actor Ed Harris Visits Pollock-Krasner House

In preparation for a feature film about the life of Abstract Expressionist painter Jackson Pollock, the actor Ed Harris (*Apollo 13*) visited the University's Pollock-Krasner House and Study Center recently. With a draft of the screenplay in hand, Harris spent three days and three nights in the house, absorbing the atmosphere of Pollock's living and working environment.

Harris, who will direct the film as well as star in it, has a longstanding interest in the character. He bears a striking resemblance to Pollock, and even smokes the same unfiltered Camel cigarettes. Ten years ago his father gave him a biography of Pollock and told him, "Man, you should play this guy." "I don't think I'm as tormented as Jackson was," Harris remarks, "but I think the struggle to define myself through my work is similar."

Pollock, considered the foremost twentieth-century American abstractionist, wrestled with the conflict between brilliance and personal anxiety. With the support and guidance of his wife, artist Lee Krasner, he moved to the East Hampton hamlet of The Springs in 1945, and began to develop the radical "drip" technique of spontaneous painting that made him internationally famous. His career was brief, however, ending with a fatal automobile accident in 1956.

The Oscar-winning actress Frances McDormand (*Fargo*) may



PHOTO CREDIT: HELEN A. HARRISON

Actor Ed Harris at the Pollock-Krasner House, seated on Jackson Pollock's boulder pile.

play the role of Pollock's strong-willed wife; casting for other key characters is still undecided.

The Pollock-Krasner House and Study Center, a project of the Stony Brook Foundation, is devoted to scholarship in twentieth-century American art, with special emphasis

on Jackson Pollock, Lee Krasner, and their contemporaries. The academic program is supervised by Stony Brook's Department of Art; new this year are graduate-level courses offered through Stony Brook's School of Professional Development and Continuing Studies (these courses will be held at the House and Study Center).

Guided tours of the house and studio, a National Historic Landmark, are given from May through October by appointment, Thursdays through Saturdays between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. A \$5 donation per person is requested. The art reference library, archives, and oral history collection are available by appointment year-round. Call 516-324-4929 for appointments, directions, and further information.

Forthcoming events include a photo exhibit titled "The *LIFE* Shoot: Photographs by Martha Holmes, April 1949" (selected from images shot when *LIFE* magazine profiled Pollock) to run through October 31; and a Photography Round Table (Sunday, September 27, 5 p.m., tickets \$15) to be held in conjunction with the exhibit. Panelists for the latter event will include Martha Holmes; her colleague Bert Stern, who photographed artists for *LIFE*'s 1959 two-part series "Baffling U.S. Art"; and Dorothy Seiberling, former *LIFE* art editor who researched the 1949 article on Pollock and wrote the magazine's posthumous survey of his career.

The son of well-known archaeologists Louis and Mary Leakey (famous for their discoveries in Olduvai Gorge), Richard Leakey has been a safari guide, a wildlife conservationist, a museum administrator, and a political activist—in addition to his work as a paleontologist, for which he is best known. His discoveries at Lake Turkana have added significantly to our knowledge of human evolution.

As director of the Kenyan Wildlife Service, Leakey worked to protect the African elephant, then endangered by widespread ivory poaching. Leakey helped get the elephant listed as an endangered species, and did much to change attitudes toward wildlife conservation, in Kenya and globally.

In 1994 Leakey helped found a new political party, Safina (Swahili for "Noah's Ark"). In spite of personal hardship (he was severely injured in a 1993 plane crash), he continues both his political activity and his work to protect wildlife.

Leakey's talk is titled "Where We Are: Our Past and the Future." His appearance—sponsored by the Office of the President, the Office of the Vice President for Research, and the Graduate School—is part of Stony Brook's "40th Anniversary Speakers Series." Watch *Happenings* for details of future speakers.

Lakeside Learning

How's this for a field trip: an undergraduate limnology class piles into aluminum rowboats and takes to the waters of a campus pond opposite Mendelsohn Quad. Limnology is the study of freshwater ecosystems, so the students examine interrelationships of the pond's physical, chemical, and biological processes. They also learn how to be scientists, says Darcy Lonsdale, who teaches the course with colleague Jeannette Yen. Lonsdale and Yen (associate professors at the Marine Sciences Research Center) show their apprentices how to sample for fauna, use aquatic probes to study oxygen and temperature profiles, and look for macronutrients (such as nitrogen and phosphorus) in the water. The budding scientists analyze their data in the lab, and write their results in scientific format.

The course teaches perseverance, a necessary virtue in research. The novice limnologists are on the job rain or shine (only high winds or lightning will scuttle a field outing), and they learn how to cope when things don't go as planned.

Limnology is "my favorite course that I teach," says Lonsdale. "I work with the students one-on-one and get to know all of them."

The pond is actually a recharge basin about which little was known. Recently, Lonsdale's students brought back the first bits of information: the zooplankton there are dominated by very large species, and few fish call the pond home. "We only found one little fish," Lonsdale reports, "and it escaped out of our trap,"



A boatload of limnology students from the Marine Sciences Research Center, returning from the classroom..

HALF-PRICE TICKETS

Tickets to Department of Music concerts are now available for half-price to Stony Brook faculty, staff, and students. Here's the catch: you must show your Stony Brook I.D. and purchase the tickets in person at the Staller Center Box Office. The discount is good for up to two tickets per concert, and may not be combined with any other discounts. For information, call the Department of Music at 2-7330.

Multicultural Festival a Success



Stony Brook's recent International and Multicultural Festival was a success. The President's Student Advisory Council on Diversity planned and conducted the event with help from the Office for Diversity and Affirmative Action, the Department of Theatre Arts, and other offices on campus. International music swirled through the air, while the crowd sampled a buffet of Italian, Asian, Latin American, and Caribbean foods. The Council presented University President Shirley Strum Kenny with a stack of oversized puzzle pieces. When the 20' by 5' puzzle was assembled on the Academic Mall, it read: "Diversity is the one true thing we all have in common. Celebrate it every day!"

Clinical Research in Emergency Medicine

A class in emergency medicine clinical research will be offered this fall. The Academic Associate/Emergency Medicine Clinical Research Program teaches fundamentals and advanced knowledge of research related to clinical emergency medicine. The program is open to undergraduate students, graduate students, medical students, paramedic students, and undergraduate volunteers. It includes lectures and opportunities to conduct research with faculty and staff. Participants are required to work clinical shifts in the Emergency Department of University Hospital. The course number is EXT 488. For information, call Cathy Silberstein in Emergency Medicine, 4-7856.

Jumpstart Your Career

The Career Placement Center (CPC) on campus recently celebrated its official reopening, with a redesigned office, expanded services, and a team of dedicated counselors offering individual attention. "The campus community is invited to tap into this valuable resource for a variety of career-related decisions, such as applying to graduate school, assessment programs, interviewing techniques, and résumé writing," says Tim Luzader, director of the CPC. The Center, on the cutting edge of technology with an award-winning Web page, uses an Internet-based résumé referral service to help maximize job searches.

Employers also benefit from the CPC. Hundreds of organizations, such as IBM, Computer Associates, and AT&T participate in job fairs and hold campus interviews to recruit qualified employees. The CPC offers job fair prep workshops to ensure that candidates are confident and ready.

Whether you're in the market for a job or looking to fill a position, call the Career Placement Center at 2-6810 or visit their Web site at www.sunysb.edu/career/.

"King of Recycling"

We should think of Evan Liblit every time we take our old cans and bottles out to the curb. Back in the 1980s, Liblit, who died in 1995 at the age of 46, was one of recycling's early champions; he helped draft New York State's Solid Waste Management Plan. As an adjunct faculty member, Liblit taught a course on recycling at Stony Brook's Marine Sciences Research Center. His efforts with governments and private industry to promote and support the collection and reuse of our cast-offs earned him a national reputation as the "King of Recycling."

Now Liblit's friends and colleagues have started a campaign to fund a scholarship in his memory. The Evan R. Liblit Memorial Scholarship will support full-time, first-year graduate students at MSRC's Waste Reduction and Management Institute. The first award will be made this fall.

For more information, or to make a contribution to the Evan R. Liblit Scholarship Fund, please call MSRC at 2-8700.

Bell Atlantic Grants Educate Public

Bell Atlantic is supporting two programs that link Stony Brook with the community. One grant from the Bell Atlantic Foundation—to the University's Program in Technology and Society—will create a computer lab. Another, in partnership with the Carol M. Baldwin Breast Cancer Research Fund, Inc., will establish a public education lecture series.

The \$21,000 grant enabled Technology and Society to purchase 12 Pentium computers with Internet access and a variety of educational software. Stony Brook has installed the computers in its new Laboratory for Information Technology Education (LITE), created with matching funds from the University. The lab will bring together Stony Brook undergraduates in science and technology, students and teachers from the region's elementary, middle, and high schools, teachers enrolled in Stony Brook's master's degree program in Technological Management Systems, and retirees from the community. LITE will also serve as a training ground for small groups of educators looking to improve their digital literacy and explore state-of-the-art technology and telecommunications as a tool for teaching and learning.

Last October Bell Atlantic and the Carol M. Baldwin Breast Cancer Research Fund began a partnership to prevent, detect, and treat breast cancer. So far (with a grant of \$50,000 from the Bell Atlantic Foundation) this partnership has yielded a series of professional and public lectures designed to further educate the public about the prevention and treatment of breast cancer. The Bell Atlantic Scholars in Breast Cancer Series began several months ago at the University Hospital and Medical Center at Stony Brook, with public lectures sharing the latest in breast cancer research and treatment advances, risk factors, and methods of prevention and detection.

Masked Ball Oct. 3 for Scholarships

Here's your chance to be Zorro, the Phantom of the Opera, or any other masked character who intrigues you. Stony Brook

will hold a Masked Ball on Saturday, October 3, at 8 p.m. in the Student Activities Center.

The event (masks provided, black tie optional) will feature the music of The Lionel Hampton Orchestra and catering by Mirabelle Restaurant. A portion of the proceeds will go to support the Stony Brook Scholarship Fund. Tickets are \$100 per person. For information and tickets, call Jovanna Little at 2-6106.



An open house is being hosted by the Marine Sciences Research Center (MSRC) on Saturday, October 3 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

This fun-filled event will feature a touch tank, TV weather forecasting, MSRC faculty talks, and a food demonstration.

All children, high school students, and adults welcome.

Look for more details in upcoming issues of *Happenings*.

Writing Contest on Health and Healing

The Institute for Medicine in Contemporary Society (IMCS) is sponsoring a new writing contest to encourage reflection on and writing about health, illness, and healing. All members of the University community are welcome to enter, including students, faculty, and staff from all departments on both sides of campus, and employees, staff, patients, and families of patients of University Hospital.

Entries may take the form of poetry, short stories, or personal essays. Poetry entries should be no longer than 50 lines, and prose no more than 2,000 words. There is no

limit to the number of entries any one person may submit. Submissions must not have been previously published in print or electronic format and must not be under consideration for publication anywhere else.

There will be two first prizes of \$500—one for the best poetry entry and one for the best prose entry—and the prize-winning work will be published in a special arts issue of *Contexts* (the institute's newsletter) in June 1999. All entries will be considered for publication. The final selection of winners will be made by an outside judge. Entries will be read anonymously, so please do not include your name or any identifying information in your entry. Instead include a separate cover sheet with your name, address, telephone num-



Felix Rapaport has received the prestigious Medawar Prize, ultimate accolade of organ transplantation.

Rapaport Receives Medawar Prize

Felix T. Rapaport, M.D., distinguished professor of surgery at University Hospital and Medical Center, was awarded the prestigious Medawar Prize—the ultimate accolade of world organ transplantation—at the World Congress of the Transplantation Society, held in Montreal, Canada, in July.

In his introduction of Rapaport at the award ceremony, Thomas Starzl, M.D., past president of the Transplantation Society, celebrated his colleague as a "peerless educator, scientist, and transplant surgeon." Rapaport's contributions over the past four decades include his reports of the first systematic study of skin allograft rejection in humans, which suggested the possible existence of tissue types. This early work led to the discovery by Rapaport, together with Jean Dausset, M.D., of the human leukocyte antigen (HLA) system of human histocompatibility, which established the scientific foundation for organ transplantation.

Funded by Sandoz Pharmaceuticals, the Medawar Prize is awarded biennially to one or more individuals for a major scientific discovery or a focused body of work in immunobiology or experimental/clinical transplantation. The prize was established in 1988 in memory of the Society's first president, Sir Peter Medawar, who is considered the founder of transplantation immunology.

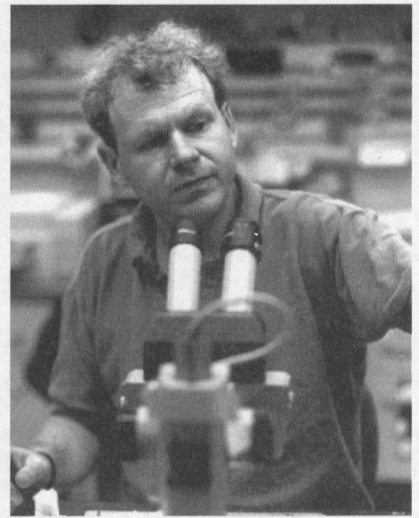
Rapaport is the recipient of numerous national and international awards for advancing organ transplantation.

ber, and e-mail address, if available, along with the title of your entry.

Submissions for this year's contest should be typed, postmarked no later than January 15, 1999 (late entries will be held over for next year's contest), and mailed to:

1999 IMCS Writing Competition
Institute for Medicine in
Contemporary Society
Department of Preventive
Medicine
Stony Brook University
Stony Brook, NY 11794-8036

If you have any questions, send an e-mail to Catherine Belling, cbelling@uhmc.sunyeb.edu, or call 4-2765.



Research awards will help support J. Peter Gergen's work, which could contribute to the diagnosis and treatment of leukemia.

Honors for Gergen

J. Peter Gergen, associate professor of biochemistry and cell biology, and a member of the Institute for Cell and Developmental Biology, has been chosen as the winner of the 1998 Targeted Research Opportunity Award. Gergen also will receive the Cacosinos Cancer Scholar Research Award.

Gergen joined the faculty of the Department of Biochemistry and Cell Biology in 1989. He received a Ph.D. in biochemistry from Brandeis University and began his work on the genetics of embryonic development while a postdoctoral fellow with Eric Wieschaus at Princeton University. He has pioneered work on Runt domain proteins, a recently discovered family of developmental regulators that have pivotal roles in processes ranging from pattern formation in insect embryos to leukemogenesis in humans.

The work supported by Gergen's Cancer Scholar Cacosinos Research Award is being carried out primarily by Dan Tracey, a predoctoral student from the graduate program in genetics, in close collaboration with Jerry Thomsen of the Department of Biochemistry and Cell Biology. This research extends the analysis of Runt domain genes to the embryonic origin of precursor cells responsible for blood cell development. A further understanding of the origin and development of blood cell precursors can contribute to the diagnosis and treatment of leukemia.

HAPPENINGS

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Assistant Vice President for

Communications: Yvette St. Jacques

Director of Creative Services:

Joan Dickinson

Editor: Susan Risoli

Managing Editor: Marc Lecard

Writers: Joan Dickinson, Stuart

Kendall, Murray Lamond, Marc

Lecard, Susan Risoli

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CALENDAR

September 2 – September 15

ART

9/15 Tuesday. "Liliana Porter: Retrospective." University Art Gallery, Staller Center for the Arts. For hours call 2-7240.

Through 9/18, Friday. "Pots for Tea" Ceramic Tea Pot Exhibition. Works by students, faculty, and friends of the Stony Brook Union Crafts Center. Stony Brook Union Art Gallery, second floor, Stony Brook Union, Monday-Friday 12-4 p.m. or by appointment. Opening Reception Wednesday, 9/9, 7-9 p.m.

FILMS

9/11, Friday. **Titanic.** 7 p.m. Tickets \$4 adults; \$3 students, seniors, and children ages 12 and under. Or get a \$20 pass to see all 15 films in the Fall Staller Film Series! For tickets or info call the Box Office at-ARTS.

SPECIAL EVENTS

"Get to Know Your Neighbor" Day. Resource Fair and Barbecue. Info tables, music, giveaways, fun! Also tables staffed by Interfaith Center ministries. Noon-3 p.m. Rain date: 9/9.

Through 9/3, Thursday. Art Poster Sale. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Student Activities Center lobby.

Through 9/3, Thursday. Plant Sale. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Stony Brook Union lobby.

Through 9/3, Thursday. Pottery Sale. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Stony Brook Union lobby.

9/7, Monday. Campus Carnival. Amusement rides, games, food. 2-10 p.m., Old H-Quad Parking Lot.

9/9, Wednesday. Austin Travel Kick-Off Event. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Corridor between cafeterias on Level 5, Health Sciences Center. Come welcome Austin Travel, Stony Brook's official on-site travel agency, to University Medical Center. Prizes, giveaways, refreshments. The HSC Austin Travel Office will be

open on the second floor, HSC, every Tuesday and Thursday from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

SEMINARS

9/11, Friday-9/12, Saturday. **George Lipsitz**, Ethnic Studies, UC San Diego. Call Humanities Institute for details, 2-7765.

9/14, Monday-9/15, Tuesday. **Enrique Dussel**, Duke University. To be held at the Latin American and Caribbean Center. Call Humanities Institute for details, 2-7765.

9/14, Monday. "Light Transduction by the Mammalian Photoreceptor Rhodopsin." Dr. H. Gobind Khorana, professor of biology and chemistry at M.I.T. 4 p.m., Lecture Hall 2, Health Sciences Center.

9/15, Tuesday. "Temporal Mestizaje: Artistic Practice and Uneven Historical Development." David Craven, Art History, University of New Mexico. 5 p.m., Staller Center Art Gallery.

SPORTS

For info call the Seawolves Hotline at 2-WOLF.

9/2, Wednesday. Volleyball. Seawolves vs. C. W. Post. 7 p.m., home.

9/5, Saturday. Men's Soccer. Seawolves vs. New Jersey Technical College. 1 p.m., home.

9/5, Saturday. Women's Soccer. Seawolves vs. Fordham, 3 p.m., home.

9/11, Friday-9/12, Saturday. Volleyball. "Holiday Inn Classic." Time to be announced, home.

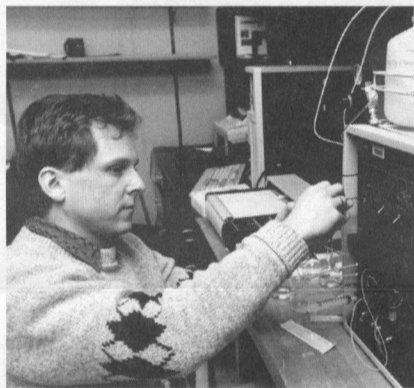
9/11, Friday. Women's Tennis. Seawolves vs. Sacred Heart, 3 p.m., home.

9/13, Sunday. Women's Tennis. Seawolves vs. Franklin Pierce, 1 p.m., home.

9/15, Tuesday. Volleyball. Quinnipiac, 7 p.m., home.

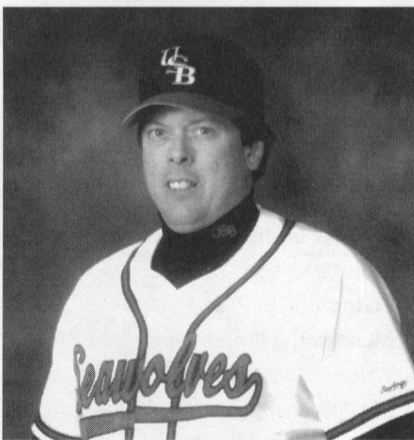
IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Martin Schoonen received a National Science Foundation equipment award to purchase a new ion



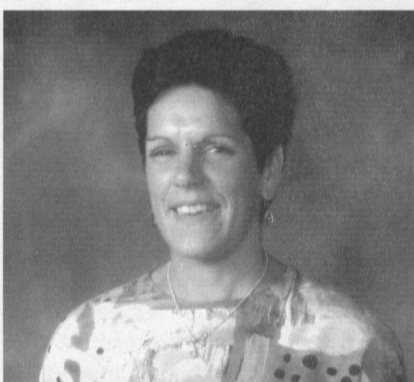
Martin Schoonen

chromatograph . . . **Robert Dodd**, professor of geosciences, was honored by the School of Professional Development with its 1998 Bentley Glass/Mortimer Kreuter Great Teacher Award . . . art professor **Michele H. Bogart** has been named a lay member of the Art Commission of the City of New York. The 11-member Art Commission annually reviews designs for art, architecture, street furniture, and landscape architecture to be placed on city-owned property . . . baseball head coach . . . **Matt Senk** and volleyball head coach



Matt Senk

Teri Tiso were named (respectively) Stony Brook's Male and Female Coach of the Year . . . **Charlie McAteer**, **Adrienne Combs**, and **Sharon Valentine**, emergency department R.N.s, all have been selected to receive President's



Teri Tiso

Awards for Classified Service. McAteer also will receive PEF's "Quality Services from Quality People" award . . . **Sidney Gelber**, distinguished service professor emeritus and former academic vice president, was honored with a Life Achievement Award from Ben-Gurion University of the Negev . . . the School of Nursing was selected for a program to develop nursing education in Eritrea. **Berhane Ghebrehiwet** of the School of Medicine's Department of Immunology, professor **Ora James Bouey**, and **Lenora McClean**, dean of the School of Nursing, traveled to Asmara, Eritrea to work out preliminary details of the program. **Lisa Jennings** and **Vivian Cunningham**, faculty in the nurse midwifery program, were scheduled to spend time in Asmara teaching and working on curriculum development . . . **Arnold Jaffe**, associate professor of clinical family medicine, received notice of a three-year, \$274,000 family medicine faculty development grant (the first such award in the Department of Family Medicine's history) . . . **Dan Davis**, associate professor of geosciences, received a Presidential Mini-Grant for "Integration of Field Research into the Curriculum in Geophysics and Structural Geology" . . . **Clare P. Grey**, assistant professor of chemistry, and **Igor Aleiner**, assistant professor of physics, have been named recipients of Alfred P. Sloan Foundation Research Fellowships. The \$70,000, two-year fellowships are awarded annually to 100 out-

standing young scientists and economists in the United States and Canada who show exceptional promise . . .

Richard K. Larson has been named winner of the 1998 Educom Medal from the organization Educause, in recognition of his work in developing outstanding technology-based teaching and learning programs for linguistics . . . **Vicky Penner Katz**, director of university news services, has been elected treasurer of the Press Club of Long Island—the Long Island chapter of the Society of



Vicky Katz

Professional Journalists. . . **Milton Lodge**, professor of political science and director of the political psychology laboratory, was elected president of the 3,000-member Midwest Political Science Association. Lodge will serve as president-elect until April 1999, and then as president until April 2000 . . . Five "Project Java" (an on-line educational program) students from the **Department of Computer Sciences** won first place in the "college student" category of the 1998 Long Island Software Awards competition. Project Java is administered by **Glenn Richard** and **Janet Niebling**, of Stony Brook's Center for High Pressure Research, and by Stony Brook faculty **Peter Henderson** and **Troy Wolfskill** . . . **Helmut Norpoth**, professor of political science, visited the Republic of China (Taiwan) as part of a delegation of American scholars invited by the Institute of International Relations in Taipei. The group met with high-ranking government officials



Taiwanese temple, as captured by political science professor Helmut Norpoth.

to discuss such issues as the Asian financial crisis and mainland China-Taiwan relations . . . **Thomas T. Liao** of the Department of Technology and Society has been named a Distinguished Teaching Professor by the SUNY Board of Trustees . . . history professor **Barbara Weinstein** and leading professor of pharmacology **Sidney Strickland** have been named recipients of 1998 Guggenheim Fellowships. They are among 168 artists, scholars, and scientists chosen from 3,000 applicants. Weinstein was selected for her studies on regionalism in Sao Paulo and the formation of a Brazilian national identity, and Strickland was honored for his research on the role of proteases in wiring the central nervous system . . . **Robert Haltiwanger**, associate professor of biochemistry and cell biology, is one of two recipients of Neose Technologies Inc.'s second annual Glycoscience Research Award. Haltiwanger was recognized for his research into the functional roles and biosynthetic pathways for glycosylinositol phosphorylceramides in fungal pathogens. The two-year, \$75,000 grant will fund his research efforts.

"In the Spotlight" will appear periodically to spread the word about accomplishments of University people. Share your good news with us! Write to: Happenings Editor, Room 144 Administration, 0605, e-mail: gale.clancy@sunysb.edu.