

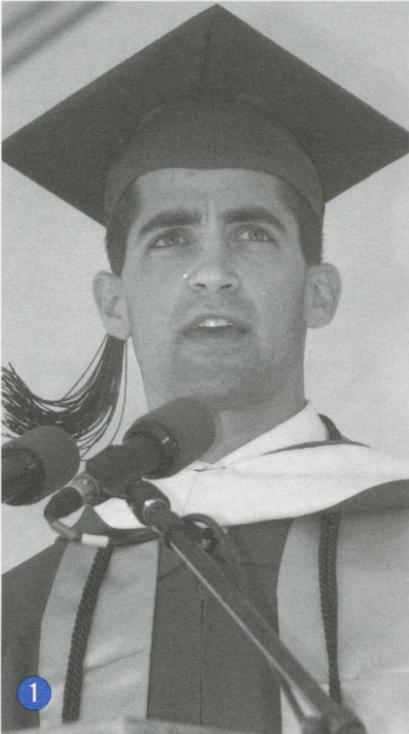
HAPPENINGS

FACULTY / STAFF / FRIENDS NEWSLETTER



VOLUME 11 NO. 19 June 9, 2004

COMMENCEMENT 2004



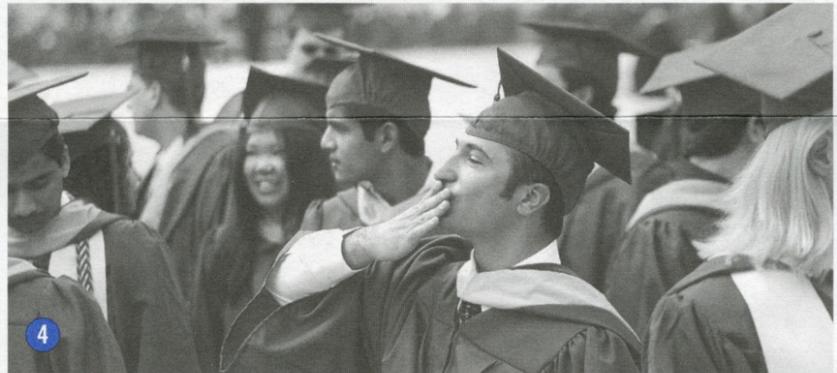
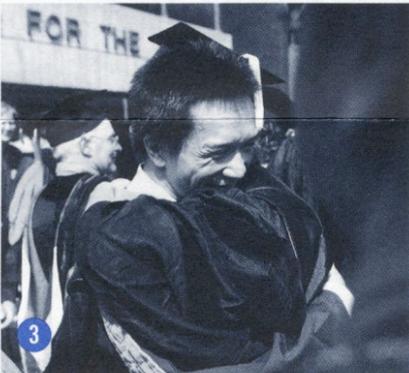
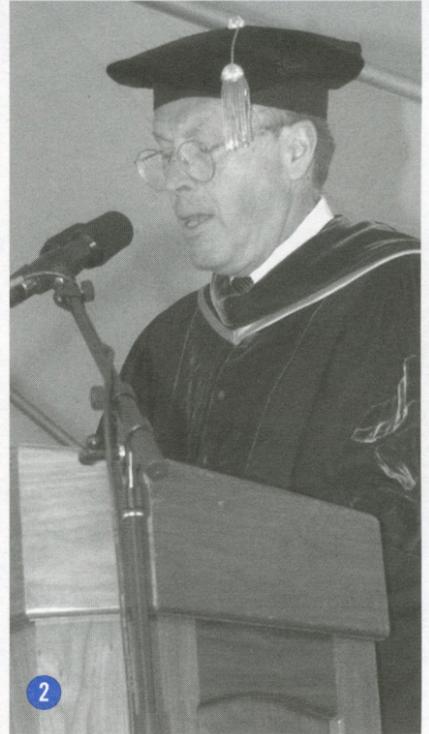
New York Senator Charles E. Schumer told the 4,878 graduates at the May 21 commencement to take risks, “and don’t let the fear of failure deter you.” Schumer, speaking at the first commencement Stony Brook has held in the Kenneth P. LaValle Stadium, added: “If you take the risk and fail, you can almost always recover. And if . . . you succeed, your life will be enriched forever.”

Before a crowd of more than 13,000, Senator Schumer congratulated honorary degree recipients Richard L. Gelfond, a 1976 alumnus of the University, Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Stony Brook Foundation, and co-CEO of the Imax Corporation; and Matthew J. Cody, a member of the Stony Brook Foundation Board and a philanthropist who, along with his wife, Debra, were instrumental in establishing Stony Brook’s Cody Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities.

President Kenny conferred 2,901 bachelor’s degrees, 1,391 master’s degrees, 361 Ph.D. degrees, and 225 professional certificates.

Emphasizing the diversity of the campus, both in its demographics and course offerings, President Kenny told the graduates, “Stony Brook is a microcosm now of the world tomorrow. Stony Brook is about the future, and it is about the past. It is a place where you can study human origins, geology, and the Civil War—but also computer graphics and the human genome.”

Student speaker Adam Zimmerman, who earned his B.A. in history, told his classmates, “Think of Stony Brook not as a bridge to nowhere, and not even as a bridge to somewhere, but if we put our minds to it, a bridge that can lead to anywhere.” He graduated summa cum laude with a GPA of 3.88 and is pursuing a career in public service.



1) Student speaker Adam Zimmerman; 2) Provost Robert McGrath announces the honorary degree recipients; 3) students outside Staller Center following the Doctoral Graduation and Hooding Ceremony on May 20; 4) a group of Stony Brook’s 4,878 graduates; 5) honorary degree recipient Richard L. Gelfond; 6) graduates march toward Kenneth P. LaValle Stadium; 7) left to right: Senator Charles E. Schumer, honorary degree recipient Matthew J. Cody, and President Kenny; 8-11) graduates enjoy the commencement festivities, held for the first time in LaValle Stadium.

Photos by David Roberts and Medical Photography

Stony Brook Film Festival

July 21–July 31
Staller Center

For more information, visit
www.stallercenter.com.

Nicholas Fisher is Guggenheim Fellow

Nicholas Fisher, Professor in the Marine Sciences Research Center (MSRC), has been awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship, one of the most prestigious honors in academia. Fisher received the fellowship for his research relating to the biomagnification of metals in contrasting marine food chains.

The John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation made 185 awards in the United States and Canada totaling \$6,912,000. The recipients were selected from more than 3,200 applicants.

Fisher's work will evaluate the degree to which potentially toxic metals get transferred in pelagic and benthic food chains. While some information is known about this issue for temperate marine ecosystems, there is very little known about contaminants and their interactions in tropical systems, which are increasingly under stress from human activities.

"Being granted a Guggenheim Fellowship is an extraordinary honor," said David Conover, Dean of the MSRC. "It says a lot about the importance of Dr. Fisher's work and the critical role marine sciences play in the environment and development of our region."

Fisher was the only faculty member from a SUNY institution to receive the honor.

International Symposium on Molecular Carcinogenesis

In Honor of
Arthur P. Grollman, M.D.
Founding Chair of the
Department of Pharmacology

Monday, June 14
8:00 a.m.–5:30 p.m.
SAC Auditorium

For more information, visit
www.pharm.sunysb.edu/symposium.

SEAWOLVES

Summer 7's Classic

The men's soccer program is hosting its first annual Seawolves Summer 7's Classic, scheduled for Saturday, June 26. This outdoor men's soccer tournament is open to all. The cost for each seven-member team is \$250. A \$100 deposit must be received by June 12. For more information, contact Jack Stefanowski at Jack.Stefanowski@stonybrook.edu or (917) 676-0855.

Boys Basketball Camp

The men's basketball staff is hosting a three-week summer basketball camp for boys ages 8 to 17. The dates are July 12–July 16, July 19–July 23, and July 26–July 30. Sessions run from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. For more information, please contact Mary Scully at 632-4583.

NCATE Ranks Stony Brook at the Head of the Class

May 12, 2004, marked an important milestone for Stony Brook's Teacher Education and Educational Leadership programs coordinated by the Professional Education Program (PEP).

A five-person Board of Examiners (BOE) team from the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) visited the University from May 8 through May 12 to review evidence and assess the quality of the professional preparation of teachers and administrators. The team was composed of representatives from Illinois, Texas, Kansas, West Virginia, and Oklahoma. Their visit was synchronized with a two-person team from the Office of College and University Evaluation (OCUE) of the New York State Education Department (NYSED).

To gain national recognition, the University was required to meet six NCATE standards, two of which dealt with candidate knowledge, skills, and dispositions, and the remaining four with PEP governance and ability to ensure high-quality preparation. PEP, which was created as an independent administrative unit in July 1999, reports to the Office of the Provost. The Unit is headed by Dorit Kaufman, Associate Professor in Linguistics, and is supported by Mary Ann Short, Associate Director for Administration; Laurie Stanton, Staff Assistant; and Dolores Theilmann, Secretary.

During their five-day visit, the NCATE/NYSED team reviewed thousands of documents and interviewed hundreds of people at the University and in the community, including the President, Provost, deans, chairs, faculty, and administrators, as well as alumni, cooperating teachers, principals, and superintendents from the community. The BOE also conducted site visits at partnering schools to observe Stony Brook's candidates teaching and participating in administrative roles.

At the exit interview on May 12, the BOE commented on the strength, excellence, and uniqueness of Stony Brook's distributed model; the quality of the clinical experiences and internships; and the high energy, commitment, and collaborative spirit they had encountered within the University and among the University and its P-12 community partners. The BOE announced that "all standards for initial and advanced programs are met," and that their recommendation to NCATE's Unit Accreditation Board will be to fully accredit Stony Brook for initial and advanced programs at the undergraduate, graduate, and post-graduate levels.

SB's Mini Baja to Compete



Engineering students pose with the mini baha vehicle they built under the guidance of faculty advisor, Lin-Shu Wang. They will enter the vehicle in a competition pitting it against roughly 130 other university-built cars from around the world. It took the 2004 team a full year to build the car. Pictured from left are: Professor Wang, sophomore Odean Foster, graduate student Brian Chan, sophomore Jonathan Vaillancourt, and graduate student Noah Machtay. Senior Yohann Littee is the driver.

Habitat Fundraiser Succeeds



For the third consecutive year, the Stony Brook campus community came together to meet the Habitat for Humanity fundraising goal, raising more than \$65,000. This year's winner of the Gold Hammer Award for Outstanding Fundraising went to Student Affairs, whose campaign, coordinated by Daryl Lynn Bachman, raised \$20,000. Dr. Frederick Preston, Habitat for Humanity Campaign Chair, expressed his deep gratitude and satisfaction at a recognition ceremony held at the University Club. "This is important work we are doing here. Together, we are changing the lives of Reynaldo Roa and LaChelle Henry, and their three children, who will finally have a home of their own." Other areas with high achievements in fundraising included the Inter Fraternity Sorority Council, the Residential Program students, the Department of Physics and Astronomy, and the School of Health Technology and Management. Pictured left to right are Donna Diaz, Chris Harrison, Dr. Fred Preston, John Vatalaro, Sue Dimonda, and Daryl Lynn Bachman.

Dr. Richard Lin Wins Presidential Award

Honored at White House

Richard Lin, M.D., Assistant Professor of Medicine in the Division of Hematology, has been named a winner of a Presidential Career Award—the highest honor the U.S. government can bestow on an outstanding scientist or engineer beginning his or her independent research career. Dr. Lin was nominated by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

The Presidential Career Awards are designed to recognize young researchers in science and engineering who show exceptional potential for leadership and promise. The awards are intended to foster innovative and far-reaching developments in science and technology, increase awareness of careers in science and engineering, give recognition to the scientific mission of participating agencies, and enhance connections between fundamental research and national goals.

Dr. Lin was honored with other award winners at the White House last month. His research focuses on the investigation of basic mechanisms that control cell growth and differentiation. He is also a staff physician in the Division of Hematology and Oncology at the VA Medical Center in Northport.

"I am honored to be recognized as a physician-scientist among this group of talented researchers and I hope my work will continue to advance the frontier of medical knowledge," said Dr. Lin, who joined the Stony Brook faculty in 2001.

Science Lectures

The following Science Lecture Series is co-sponsored by the Friends of the Library and the Science Club of Long Island. The programs are at 7:30 p.m. in the Javits Room, Melville Library.

Tuesday, June 15: "The Theory of Evolution"

Tuesday, July 13: "Mitochondria: From the Origins of Life to Human Disease and Aging"

Tuesday, July 27: "The Learning Behavior in Electric Fish"

Tuesday, August 10: "History of Medical Treatment, Herbal Supplements, and the Placebo Effect"

Tuesday, August 24: "Evolution of the Vertebrates from Fish to Mammals"

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Assistant Vice President for Communications:

Yvette St. Jacques

Director of Editorial Services:

Joanne Morici

Editor: Lynne Roth

Writers: Pat Calabria, Joan Dickinson, Glenn Jochum, Lynne Roth

Art Director: Karen Leibowitz

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