

# HAPPENINGS

FACULTY / STAFF / FRIENDS NEWSLETTER

STONY  
BROOK

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

VOLUME 7 NO. 15 MARCH 29, 2000

## USB Sets Record For Web Hits

The Science Coalition Web site received a record number of hits—more than 42,000—the week Stony Brook was its featured university.

During the week of March 13, 2000, several recent Stony Brook accomplishments were mentioned on the site, including: a breakthrough in molecular medicine that makes it possible to see inside live cells; the connection between infidelity and clinical depression; a championship year for technology transfer; and several others.

The strong, balanced investment in research that was highlighted on the site demonstrated not only the importance of medical breakthroughs, but how this research also paves the way for world leadership in a wide range of new technologies.

The Science Coalition is an alliance of 60 major public and private research universities, 416 organizations, 350 businesses, Nobel laureates, voluntary health organizations, medical groups, health care providers, scientific societies, and individuals. The Coalition supports increased funds for scientific research as well as a broad, multidisciplinary approach to funding science. Visit the site at [www.sciencecoalition.org](http://www.sciencecoalition.org).

## PROVOST'S LECTURE SERIES

### JILLIAN F. BANFIELD

Professor of Geology and Geophysics, University of Wisconsin

“Life in Acid: Microbiological Controls On Acid Mine Drainage Generation”

Wednesday, April 5  
5 p.m.

Earth and Space Sciences  
Building, Room 001



### LONI DING

Emmy Award Winning Filmmaker, Executive Director of CETEL, Berkeley, California

“Making History/Making Home”

Tuesday, April 11  
6:30 p.m.

Alliance Room  
Melville Library

## Billy Joel Donation to Fund MSRC Research

Billy Joel, who lectured and answered questions from a packed Staller Center audience on March 13, has donated his fee from the performance to the Marine Sciences Research Center. The donation is earmarked for research into suspected causes of the lobster die-off in Long Island Sound.

Joel performed for three hours before a capacity crowd of over mostly 1,000 students and staff in what was billed as “An Intimate Evening With Billy Joel.” The performance included a Q and A session with the audience, storytelling, and performances of many of Joel’s hit songs.

With this generous gift, the Marine Sciences Research Center stands to receive as much as \$30,000.

President Shirley Strum Kenny was in the audience when the announcement of Joel’s donation was made by Staller Center Director Alan Inkles as he introduced the singer-songwriter, who for years has been active in supporting the Long Island fishing industry.

“We are delighted that Billy Joel is supporting the Marine Sciences Research Center and its efforts to eliminate the disease that is attacking lobsters,” Dr. Kenny said. “He cares passionately about the lobsters and the baymen, and so do we. His performance was wonderful. All of us—students, faculty, and neighbors—were totally engaged. He’s not only a great artist, but a great teacher as well.”

## Sign up for Spring Pride Patrol

During the University’s 13th Annual Spring Pride Patrol, scheduled for Friday, April 28, volunteers will be involved with cleaning flower beds and planting flowers as well as a painting project on campus. This year’s Patrol again coincides with “Take Our Daughters to Work” Day, so that interested children can also help beautify the campus.

All faculty and staff are invited to participate. A sign-up form was recently mailed to all employees, asking them to select the type of work they prefer and to return the form to Arlene Skala, Office of Conferences and Special Events. Volunteers can also choose one of the following time slots: 10 a.m. - Noon or 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Green Team members will be invited to work at their own sites so they will have the opportunity to spruce up their gardens. For volunteers who are not a part of a Green Team, sites will be selected to either clean flower beds and plant flowers or participate in a painting project.

As many of you already know, Pride Patrol is a volunteer effort that requires only a few hours during the normal work day. Participants enjoy dressing down in preparation for some outdoor activity and attending the FSA-sponsored Ice Cream Social Reception, which will be held in the lobby of the Staller Center at 3:30 p.m. President Kenny will be on hand to say a few words to the “daughters” who participate, as well as to present five- and ten-year volunteers with token gifts of appreciation. The Seawolf will also be romping around, ready for “photo opportunities” at the Ice Cream Social.

If you would like to participate and did not receive a form, please call Arlene Skala at 632-6230.

### “Take Our Daughters to Work” Program

This year’s full-day program offers some great new events for your daughters to enjoy. There will be a Kick Off Breakfast, plus 14 workshops to choose from, such as “Digital Storytelling,” “Kickboxing,” “GIRL POWER,” “Be a Medical Detective,” and “Calling All Reporters.” Back from last year is the “Behind the Scenes” at the Staller Center and “Athletics Unlimited.” Plus, Health Sciences Center and University Hospital employees and their daughters are joining in the fun. As always, the day includes a luncheon and a “Make Your Own Sundae” dessert party. All employees are encouraged to bring their daughters or other young girls who are special in their lives to experience this program. Registration is on a first-come first-registered basis due to limited space. Call Conferences and Special Events for a registration form at 632-6320.

## Astronaut to Speak at Conference

Bernard A. Harris, a flight surgeon and a veteran of two Space Shuttle missions, will be one of two keynote speakers at the “New Horizons: Making the Grade for Public Health



Astronaut Bernard Harris.

in Preventive Medicine” conference, which runs from Monday, April 3 through Wednesday, April 5, at the Student Activities Center and the Health Science Center Lecture Hall 5. The event is designed to educate the community about the growing field of preventive medicine.

Harris, who is now vice president of SPACEHAB, will give a lecture on “The Physician of the Future: Space and Beyond” on each day of the conference. His talks will be held at 9:30 a.m. on Monday (SAC), 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday (SAC), and 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday (HSC).

Pamela H. Payne, M.D., Assistant Director, Division of Community Health, The George Washington University Medical Center, will also be speaking each day on “Stepping Up: Are You Ready?” She will speak at 10:30 a.m. on Monday (SAC), 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday (SAC), and 8 a.m. Wednesday (HSC). There will also be displays on current research in the preventive medicine field.

The talks on Monday and Tuesday are geared for undergraduates, the community, faculty, staff, and high school students, while Wednesday’s talk is targeted to health care professionals, medical students, and hospital faculty and staff. For a complete schedule of events, please call Elsa Visso at 444-8265.

The Three Village Historical Society has presented the University at Stony Brook with its

### 2000 Community Recognition Award

for its “ongoing maintenance and plantings along Nicolls Road and continued upkeep of the railroad bridge, preserving the integrity, and enhancing the beauty of the Three Village Area.”

## Feedback is Focus of Art Show

*Feedback*, a show now running at the Stony Brook Union Art Gallery through April 10, is comprised of reflections on technoculture by a number of female artists. These artists employ tools such as video, audio, Web sites, and CD-ROMs to explore social and cultural dimensions of our interactions with technology. Many of the works raise political and ethical questions about consumer, surveillance, and Internet culture, work and play today, and how technology affects our sense of communities both local and global. Several of the works also involve audience participation.

Artists showing their work include Laurie Anderson, Diane Bertolo, Stephanie Dinkins, Kathy High, Susan Schuppli, and Victoria Vesna, among others. The exhibit also includes a number of iMacs, a large monitor/VCR setup, and a small sculptural installation. An on-line catalog accompanies the exhibition, which can be found at <http://emedia.art.sunysb.edu/feedback>.

An opening reception will be held on Thursday, March 30 at 6 p.m. in the Stony Brook Union University Art Gallery, located on the second floor of the Union. The Gallery is open Monday through Friday from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m.

### Celebration of Undergraduate Achievements

Wednesday, April 12  
11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Undergraduate Presentations and Award Ceremony  
Student Activities Center

Thursday, April 13  
Viewing Day of Projects  
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Student Activities Center

## Operatic Trilogy Takes Over Staller on April 7 & 9

On Friday April 7 at 8 p.m. and Sunday, April 9 at 2 p.m., the Stony Brook Opera Ensemble and Symphony Orchestra will present a fully staged production of three one-act operas by Mozart, Rimsky-Korsakov, and Stravinsky at the Staller Center. The performances will be conducted by David Lawton, Chair of the Music Department, and directed by John Lutterbie, Chair of the Theatre Arts Department. Making their Stony Brook Opera debuts are Philip Baldwin, set designer, and Alban Sardzinski, lighting designer. Margaret Morin returns as costume designer. The cast members are all advanced graduate and undergraduate voice majors studying with Stony Brook Performing Artists in Residence, Elaine Bonazzi and Richard Cross.



Singers Barbara Kokolus and Myeong Sook Park rehearsing Stravinsky's *Mavra*.

Mozart's *Bastien und Bastienne* tells the story of the estrangement of two young lovers and their eventual reconciliation through the intervention of a sorcerer. It will be sung in the original German language, with recitatives and spoken dialogue newly translated into English by Richard Cross.

Rimsky-Korsakov's opera, *Mozart and Salieri*, is essentially the story of Peter Schaffer's celebrated play and film *Amadeus*—i.e. that composer Salieri poisoned Mozart out of envy for the latter's genius. This opera will be performed in the original Russian language, with projected titles in English.

Stravinsky's comic opera, *Mavra*, tells of the efforts of two young lovers to find some time alone together. It will be sung in English.

Tickets are \$15/\$7.50 for students and seniors. For more information, call the Music department at 632-7330.

### "2 for 1!" Tickets for the Opera Trilogy!

This coupon entitles the bearer to purchase two tickets for the price of one (a \$15 value) to the Operatic Trilogy. Bring this coupon with you to the Staller Center Box Office and receive a "2 for 1" Ticket Special. for either the April 7 or April 9 Operatic Trilogy performances (8 p.m., April 7, or 2 p.m., April 9).

\*1/2 price is based on full-ticket price and may not be combined with any other discount. "2 for 1" tickets must be purchased prior to the day of the performance. Coupon must be presented to the Box Office in person to obtain discount.

## Students Honored by Research Council

Two students have been selected by the Council on Undergraduate Research to make presentations to members of Congress as part of a nationwide research lobbying effort.

Siddharth Agarwal and Anand Vadehra are among only 80 students chosen nationally to make presentations as part of the effort, "Undergraduate Research Posters on the Hill" on Thursday, April 6.

Agarwal, a senior working in the Cardiothoracic Surgery Research Laboratories at the University, will present his investigations of the role of protein synthesis in the myoprotective response to preconditioning. Vadehra, a senior Chemistry major, will describe his work building a matrix cart, which is equipment designed to allow the study of molecules at very low temperatures.

## HAPPENINGS

March 29, 2000 Volume 7, No. 15

### Assistant Vice President for Communications:

Yvette St. Jacques

### Director of Creative Services:

Joan Dickinson

### Editor: Shelley Colwell

Writers: Pat Calabria, Shelley Colwell

Stony Brook *Happenings* is published biweekly during the academic year by the Office of Communications, 144 Administration, State University at Stony Brook, Stony Brook, NY 11794-0605. Requests to include items should be submitted at least two weeks prior to print date. Phone: 631-632-6334. Fax: 631-632-6313. Reprint permission on request. © 2000.

The State University at Stony Brook is an affirmative action/equal opportunity educator and employer. This publication is available in alternative format on request.

## CALENDAR March 29 - April 13

### ART/MUSIC/THEATRE

4/1, Saturday. **Les Ballets Trockadero De Monte Carlo.** The world's foremost all-male comic ballet company in an April Fool's Night Celebration! Parodying classical works from "Swan Lake" to "Giselle," the Ballets Trockadero offers an irresistible evening for dance aficionados and complete novices. Admission is \$29. 8 p.m. Main Stage, Staller Center.

4/2, Sunday, **The Canadian Brass.** Now in their 28th year of existence, The Canadian Brass is known for their blend of classical virtuosity with high-spirited entertainment. Audiences will enjoy the wit and musical slapstick while hearing a plethora of diverse offerings. Admission is \$27. 7 p.m. Main Stage, Staller Center.

4/7, Friday, and 4/9, Sunday. **Spring Opera.** Three one-act operas by Mozart, Rimsky-Korsakov, and Stravinsky will be performed by singers pursuing studies in the University's vocal program and the Stony Brook Symphony Orchestra. Admission is \$15/Students and Seniors \$7.50. 8 p.m., Friday; 2 p.m. Saturday; Main Stage, Staller Center.

4/11, Tuesday. **Spring Serenades by University Wind Ensemble.** The Wind Ensemble, with Bruce Engel as Music Director, presents works by Rimsky-Korsakov, Gustav Holst, Alfred Reed, John Williams, Rodgers, Respighi, and Sousa. 8 p.m. Main Stage, Staller Center.

4/16, Sunday. **Ackerman Concert.** Per-

formances by Stony Brook graduate students in memory of Dr. Lauren Ackerman, a generous donor to the Department of Music. Free. 4 p.m. Recital Hall, Staller Center.

### SPECIAL EVENTS

3/31, Friday, to 4/1, Sunday. **I-CON 19.** The annual science-fiction convention with special guest speakers, movies, and more. Admission is to be announced. For information, call the I-CON office at 632-6045. Sports Complex.

4/3, Monday, to 4/5, Wednesday. **New Horizons: Making the Grade for Public Health in Preventive Medicine.** A three-day conference featuring lectures, discussion groups, and more. Keynote speaker: Astronaut Bernard A. Harris, "The Physician of the Future: Space and Beyond," 9:30 a.m., Student Activities Center. Call 444-8265 for a full schedule of events.

4/9, Sunday. **Debbie Whittemore Memorial Run/Walk.** Check-in: 8:30 a.m. to 9:45 a.m.; Race Start: 10 a.m. Check in at the Lobby of Sports Complex. The run/walk route is scenic, mostly flat, with some hills, water stops and splits at each mile. A map of course will be available at check-in. Award ceremony and raffle drawing immediately following the race. Preregistration deadline is April 1. Make checks payable to: Stony Brook Campus Recreation, and mail to Sports Complex, University at Stony Brook, Stony Brook, NY 11794-3500. The application form is avail-

able for download at the Web site: [www.sunysb.edu/stuaff/recreation/debbie.htm](http://www.sunysb.edu/stuaff/recreation/debbie.htm). Admission is \$8 for all USB Students; \$10 for Alumni, Community Members, Faculty, and Staff; and \$15.00 for day of race application. For information, call 632-7206.

4/12, Wednesday, and 4/13, Thursday. **Celebration of Undergraduate Research and Achievement.** Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities will be showcased in this day-long program that will include presentations, displays, live and taped performances and more. Activities will take place in the Student Activities Center lobby, in the library Galleria and outside, weather permitting. A reception will follow. Sponsored by RAIRE and URECA. Free. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

### SEMINARS/LECTURES

4/4, Tuesday. **Center for Italian Studies.** Professor Ruth Bottigheimer discusses the Italian origin of the European Folk Tale. 4 p.m. Frank Melville Memorial Library, 4th floor, North Wing, Room N 4065.

4/6, Thursday. **Neurobiology and Behavior Lecture Series.** Dr. Li-Huei Tsai, Harvard Medical School, Howard Hughes Medical Institute, on "Protein Phosphorylation in Brain Development and Degeneration." 12 p.m., Room 038, Life Sciences Building. For more information, call 632-8616.

4/7, Friday. **Astronomy Open Night.** Astronomy Open Night series are sched-

uled the first Friday of each month. The speaker of the night is Professor James Lattimer, and he will give a lecture with the topic called "The Sun, Stars and Jello: New Results from Astroseismology." Following the lecture, weather permitting, there will be a viewing session with the University's telescopes. Free. 7:30 p.m. Room 001, Earth and Space Sciences Building.

4/12, Wednesday. **Marking Time: Acts of Endurance in Performance Art.** Kathy O'Dell from University of Maryland, Baltimore County will be the speaker. Free. 5 p.m. Art Gallery, Staller Center.

4/13, Thursday. **Neurobiology and Behavior Lecture Series.** Dr. Ignacio Provencio, Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences, will present a talk on "A Novel Human Opsin." 12 p.m. Room 038, Life Sciences Building.

4/13, Thursday. **Department of Biochemistry and Cell Biology Seminar.** Dr. Albert J. Courey, UCLA, discusses "Dorsoventral Patterning Through Transcriptional Control." 4 p.m., Room 038, Life Sciences Building.

4/13, Thursday, and 4/14, Friday. **Other Humanities: The Politics of Knowledge in Late Modernity.** Lisa Lowe, Professor of English, University of California at San Diego, will give a lecture on Thursday and conduct a seminar on Friday morning. Free. 4:30 p.m. for Thursday and 10:30 a.m. for Friday. Humanities Institute, E4340, Melville Library.