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State University of New York at Stony Brook

NEWSMAKERS

A quarterly compilation for the press about accomplishments by Stony Brook faculty, students and staff.

University News Services

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Business

Dr. Shirley Strum Kenny of Old Field, L.I., N.Y., president of State University of New York at Stony Brook, was named "Small Business Person of the Year" by the Long Island Association in recognition of her commitment and initiatives that is strengthening the ties between the academic and business communities. Dr. Kenny was one of eight people cited for their contributions to Long Island's business climate at the Association's annual breakfast for business, government and academic leaders held at the Crest Hollow Country Club in Woodbury, L.I., N.Y. Also receiving an award, as an Entrepreneurial Success Advocate, was *Dr. James A. Hayward* of Port Jefferson, an adjunct professor at Stony Brook and president and CEO of The Collaborative Group, Inc., East Setauket, L.I., N.Y. A graduate of Stony Brook, Dr. Hayward is a member of the Stony Brook Foundation and serves on the boards of the Council on Biotechnology, the Research Foundation of the State of New York, and the New York Biotechnology Association.

Academia

Four members of the faculty at State University of New York at Stony Brook have been appointed Distinguished Professors by the State University board of trustees. They are: mathematics professor *Dr. Dusa McDuff* of Setauket, L.I., N.Y., considered one of the world's leading mathematicians; *Dr. Morton A. Meyers* also of Setauket, L.I., N.Y. a professor in Stony Brook's School of Medicine and founding member of Stony Brook's Department of Radiology; *Dr. Paul Jules Poppers* of Old Field, L.I., N.Y., professor and founding member of Stony Brook's Department of Anesthesiology and a pioneer in the relatively new discipline of scientifically-based anesthesiology; and *Dr. Armen H. Zemanian*, of Port Jefferson, L.I., N.Y. a world leader in the study of infinite networks, distribution theory and reliability theory. Dr. Zemanian holds appointments in the Departments of Electrical Engineering, Applied Mathematics, and Statistics.

Appointment to the rank of Distinguished Professor, which constitutes a promotion above that of full professor, is conferred on individuals who have achieved national or international prominence and a distinguished reputation in the field.

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Stony Brook Newsmakers

Take 2-2-2-2-2

Dr. Thomas T. Liao, of **Smithtown**, L.I., N.Y. has been named a Distinguished Teaching Professor, Department of Technology and Society at State University of New York at Stony Brook. Dr. Liao's appointment, by the State University of New York Board of Trustees, places in a rank above that of full professor and is conferred by the board to honor and recognize outstanding teaching. To be considered for the rank, candidates must have a record of consistently superior performance in teaching, scholarship, professional growth, student services and academic standards and evaluation.

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State University of New York at Stony Brook history professor, *Dr. Barbara Weinstein* of **Port Jefferson**, L.I., N.Y. and leading professor of pharmacology *Dr. Sidney Strickland* of **Setauket**, L.I., N.Y. have been named recipients of 1998 Guggenheim Fellowships. They are among 168 artists, scholars and scientists chosen from among 3,000 applicants for Fellowship awards totaling over \$5.3 million. Guggenheim Fellows are appointed on the basis of unusually distinguished achievement in the past and exceptional promise for future accomplishments. Dr. Weinstein was selected on the basis of her studies on regionalism in Sao Paulo and the formation of a Brazilian national identity and Dr. Strickland for his research on the role of proteases in wiring the central nervous system.

Associations

Dr. Marvin A. Geller of **Port Jefferson**, L.I., N.Y., dean of the Marine Sciences Research Center at State University of New York at Stony Brook, has been named president-elect of the Atmospheric Science Section, American Geophysical Union. He began a two-year term as president-elect on July 1, after which he will serve a two-year term as president of the 4,000-member Section. In that role, he will be a voting member of the AGU Council, the governing body of the 35,000-member organization. Members of AGU study the earth and its environment in space. Their fields include atmospheric and ocean sciences, solid-earth sciences, hydrologic sciences and space sciences. Founded in 1919, the organization has a broad range of publications, meetings and educational activities that support research in the earth and space sciences.

As Dean and Director of the State University at Stony Brook's MSRC, Dr. Geller heads a staff of over 50 scientists conducting research in biological, physical, chemical and geological oceanography, and atmospheric sciences. Research at the MSRC and its institutes focus on important global and regional environmental issues. Dr. Geller is a meteorologist who headed the University's Institute for Terrestrial and Planetary Atmospheres before being named to head the MSRC.

Technology

State University of New York at Stony Brook linguistics professor *Dr. Richard K. Larson* of **Port Jefferson**, L.I., N.Y. has been named winner of the 1998 Educom Medal from Washington, D.C.-based Educause, in recognition of his work in developing outstanding technology-based teaching and learning programs for linguistics. He will receive the honor at a ceremony to be held in Orlando, Florida, in October as part of the organization's conference on information technology in higher education.

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Stony Brook Newsmakers

Take 3-3-3-3-3

Advancement

Dr. Susan Buchanan Stafford of **Huntington, L.I., N.Y.**, has been named Director for Advancement, College of Engineering and Applied Science at State University of New York at Stony Brook. In that role, she is responsible for all fund raising for the college. Prior to joining Stony Brook, Dr. Stafford served as associate executive director for development and communications at Lenox Hill Neighborhood House, New York City and was director of Corporate and Foundation Relations at Queens College/CUNY, New York. Dr. Stafford holds a bachelor of arts from Indiana University and received a Ph.D. in Anthropology from New York University. She also serves as a coordinator for the American Council on Education/National Network of Women Leaders, Metro New York City Chapter.

Media

Norman L. Prusslin of **Port Jefferson Station, L.I., N.Y.**, assistant director of Student Media Services at State University of New York at Stony Brook, has been re-elected to a new two-year term as a member of the Intercollegiate Broadcasting System board of directors, a post he has held since 1975. Prusslin will also serve as chairman of the board for a one-year term. IBS is the nation's oldest and largest association of college/university and school student radio stations. Prusslin also serves as general manager of WUSB-FM, Stony Brook's student radio station.

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Vicky Penner Katz of **Stony Brook, L.I., N.Y.** director of University News Services, State University of New York at Stony Brook, has been elected treasurer of the Press Club of Long Island, the Long Island chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists. A past president of the chapter, Ms. Katz also serves as vice-president of the Deadline Club, SPJ's New York City chapter, and is a member of the national board of SPJ in her role as Northeast Regional Director of the organization. A former business reporter and editor, she joined State University of New York at Stony Brook in 1989. She is a member of Investigative Reporters and Editors and the Public Relations Society of America.

Alumni Relations

Sherry Thompson Scott of **Smithtown, L.I., N.Y.**, has been named director of Alumni Relations at State University of New York at Stony Brook. A graduate of The Union Institute in Cincinnati, Ohio and the University of Cincinnati, she previously served as director of Alumni Affairs at The Union Institute, responsible for planning, organizing and implementing its annual giving and alumni programs. Prior to that, she managed and operated family retail, service and investment property businesses in Cincinnati. She is a member of Women in Communications and the American Association of University Administrators and several other business, professional and civic organizations. She is a recipient of Women in Communication's "Woman of Vision" Gem Award and was named recipient of an "Image Maker" Award from Applause Magazine.

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Stony Brook Newsmakers

Take 4-4-4-4

Student Life

Four State University of New York at Stony Brook students have been named winners of the 1998 Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence. They are among 75 students representing 26 SUNY campuses statewide. All of the students demonstrated outstanding academic achievement and have previously received national or international recognition for their scholarship. The Stony Brook winners are *Viktoriya Paroder* of **Brooklyn**, N.Y. who received a Goldwater Scholarship Award and seven other major academic honors; *Ellen Hoffman* of **Dix Hills**, L.I., N.Y. who received the Howard Hughes Medical Institute Award; *Daniel Greenbaum* of **Spring Valley**, N.Y., recipient of the National Physics Honor Society award; and *Christine Ritter* of **Great River**, L.I., N.Y., a Northrop Grumman Scholar. All of the students were recognized at a recent reception at State University Plaza, Albany.

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State University of New York at Stony Brook student *Brett Williams* of **North Babylon**, L.I., N.Y., won first place in the University's 7th Annual \$1,000 Short Fiction Contest. Mr. Williams, a recent graduate of Stony Brook with a degree in chemistry, penned "22." His work can be read on the Web at www.sunysb.edu/english/index/html. The competition is open to undergraduates enrolled full-time in American and Canadian universities and colleges. Honorable mentions went to eight other undergraduates including students at SUNY Oswego, the University of Tulsa, Northwestern, Cornell, Tufts University, Ohio State, and Hunter College.

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Four State University of New York at Stony Brook students shared \$2,500 in prizes in the University's 40th Anniversary banner contest. The students were required to identify the author of sayings on dozens of banners that line walkways and public areas around the 1,100 acre campus in this, the University's 40th year. The winners were *Brett Williams* of **North Babylon**, L.I., N.Y., *Wendy Mittelstadt* of **Vestal**, N.Y., *Matt Edwardsen* of **Pittsford**, N.Y., and *Ameneh Parvaneh* of **Great Neck**, L.I., N.Y.

Government, Art

State University of New York at Stony Brook art professor *Dr. Michele H. Bogart* of **Brooklyn**, N.Y., has been named a lay member of the Art Commission of the City of New York. The 11-member Art Commission annually reviews hundreds of designs for art, architecture, street furniture and landscape architecture to be placed on City-owned property.

Dr. Bogart is well known for her research on public sculpture and since 1991 has been a member of the Professionals' Advisory Panel for the Save Outdoor Sculpture (SOS) project of the National Institute for the Preservation of Cultural Property and National Museum of American Art. Author of numerous books, articles and other publications, she also served as consultant for the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American History and the Rockwell Museum.

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