Greetings Students and Friends of University Scholars!!

The Scholars newsletter is back!! This is now a student-led effort, and I would especially like to thank the co-editors, April Slamowitz and Bryan Szeglina, for their efforts in constructing this outstanding issue. This is just one of many recent examples of Scholars students helping the program by sharing what we do with the broader community.

I am excited to report many new initiatives for Scholars. Starting last semester, freshmen Scholars in the same Undergraduate College began living together in the same residence hall within their respective Quads. An Executive Board (e-Board), and various working subcommittees, have been set up to help the staff and Scholars Council organize large-scale events. Two examples of their outstanding efforts from last semester are the pumpkin painting for the University Hospital Cancer Center and the Scholars Ball/Dance. We have our first Scholars Fellows class this spring semester taught by the Scholars staff. The Scholars webpage has also been completely revamped, and we encourage you all to visit the page frequently for program updates and announcements.

There are some staff changes in the Scholars program as well. Allison Aldrich has moved over to the Honors College, and we thank her for all she has done for Scholars this past year. Meanwhile, we are pleased to welcome Jeremy Marchese as the Scholars Senior Staff Assistant.

This semester promises to be an exciting one for Scholars, with several events planned, including a trip to New York City, the Pi Day Talent Show with the Honors College on March 14th, and the end of the academic year Scholars Banquet on April 24th. I hope to see you there.

Dr. Brian Colle
Faculty Director and Advisor

University Scholars Welcomes New Senior Staff Assistant

Jeremy Marchese recently joined the University Scholars team this past January as the Senior Staff Assistant and Academic Advisor. Jeremy received his master's degree in Psychology, with a concentration in Forensic Profiling, and has worked in higher education for the past 11 years at various universities on Long Island.

Those of you in the Undergraduate College of Arts, Culture, and Humanities (ACH) may recognize Jeremy as the previous College Advisor for ACH from 2009-2013. In addition to serving as the Advisor for ACH, Jeremy created and chaired the Battle of the Undergraduate Colleges competition and is the advisor for the SBU StandUp Charter, a student organization on campus dedicated to eradicating all forms of bullying and homophobia. Jeremy has a strong passion for working with students and getting to know them as individuals, not just as students.

Jeremy is very excited to be working with the Scholars, both as an Advisor and an Instructor for SCH 101 and SCH 275 classes. In addition to his advising responsibilities, Jeremy will also be assisting in the development and implementation of all USCH programs and events, so if you have any suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact him. He has an "open door policy" so students are always welcome to swing by either for academic advising, or just to say hello!
Past Events

Opening Day: Welcome Freshman Scholars

Ice Cream Social

Pumpkin Painting for SBU Cancer Center

Peer Mentor Social
The Stony Brook University Scholars Program continued its long tradition of service to the community with the Scholars Masquerade Ball, held last November. Run by President Garry Lachhar, the ball was not only a way for Scholars to show their support for charity, but for them to dance with their friends and celebrate the end of the semester with food and fun. That evening, the LDS Center was decked out with balloons and streamers and packed with over 150 Scholars, all dressed up for the occasion and wearing festive masks. The entrance fee, rather than any sum of money, was a new, unwrapped toy that would be donated to Toys for Tots. Founded in 1947 by the US Marine Corps Reserve, Toys for Tots collects toys around the holiday season and provides them to underprivileged children in the community as Christmas gifts. During the night, two marines in navy blues arrived to pick up the substantial pile of toys donated by the attendees (as well as pose for a few pictures with them). And the students weren’t the only ones who got to enjoy the night’s festivities; University Scholars staff members Dr. Brian Colle, Dr. David Maynard, and Allison Aldrich were also in attendance. In addition, Vice Provost for the Undergraduate Education/Dean of the Undergraduate Colleges, Dr. Charles Robin, along with his wife, made a special appearance. The overwhelming success of the Masquerade Ball was yet another demonstration of how University Scholars are more than merely a group of high-achieving students; they are also dedicated to helping others and – if the conga line stretching around the room is any indication – enjoying themselves in the process.

-Victoria Lopez
Few Stony Brook students embrace their passions as wholeheartedly and thoroughly as senior Scholar Samuel Rosner. Raised in Yonkers, Sam came to Stony Brook with an interest in science and a dream to go into the medical field. Now a senior with a degree in biology and on course to be a physician, Sam is sad to leave his home at Stony Brook University.

Sam quickly immersed himself into the campus community in the spring of his freshman year through NRHH, the National Residence Hall Honorary. He quickly climbed through the program’s hierarchy to serve as Vice President and then eventually as President from Spring 2012 to present. He later served on the Executive Board of the Residence Hall Association (RHA), a sister organization to NRHH. With RHA, Sam organized the tenth largest single-day college bone marrow drive in history of DKMS, a New York-based organization working to expand the bone marrow registry for those with blood cancers.

Sam also organized another event which he described as his most “magical” experience at Stony Brook. In collaboration with various groups on campus, including NRHH, Sam and thirteen other Stony Brook students shaved their heads to raise money for the Sunrise Fund, an organization at Stony Brook University Cancer Center that works towards raising money for childhood oncology patients and facilities.

Sam’s interests in oncology stretch far beyond Stony Brook as well. He conducted research in a melanoma lab at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center (MSKCC) in Manhattan from 2011 to 2012 where he studied immunotherapy and melanoma’s link to breast cancer using Flow Cytometry.

Outside of the laboratory, Sam shadowed various oncologists at MSKCC. Sam considers one such doctor to be “pretty much what I want to be like in ten years.” He describes this doctor as one of the most influential people in his life and owes much of his aspiration to the medical career to him. Sam describes him as “comforting to patients,” “not above anybody else,” and willing to spend “as much time as necessary to make sure you understand what he is saying.” Sam’s experience has led him to the realization that being a doctor can be too limiting: “I want to be a person.”

This fall Sam will be attending medical school. “It’s going to be scary. It’s the real deal.” His preparations and ambitions will follow him in his graduate education, but he will never forget failing his first general chemistry exam with Professor Mayr. “You have to learn how you learn,” care about what you do, and stop looking for a formula. Sam has lived by these words throughout his undergraduate years and advises every Scholar to be passionate about their studies. His accomplishments and potent determination have led him to become a quintessential Scholar and will only pave the way for more success. -April Slanowitz and Bryan Szeglin
On February 8, 2013, Storm Nemo hit the Northeast, resulting in accumulations of as much as three feet of snow in some areas. This was the first serious snow storm of the year and was even record breaking in some areas. In the days leading up to the storm, people could be seen preparing by stocking up on food and lining up at gas stations. When the storm hit, most people stayed home, shoveled, and had hot chocolate. Those who did try to venture outside were met by unplowed streets. Some were unfortunate enough to get stuck and were either stranded in their cars overnight or had to desert their cars, reminiscent of the blizzard of '78. The LIE was shut down for the majority of that Sunday for snow removal. On the Stony Brook campus, students could be seen enjoying the snow fall by building snowmen, igloos, and sledging. Tabler steps became a popular sledding spot as students made make-shift sleds. Of course, it was not all fun and games; the hefty snow fall caused the roof of Kelly dining to collapse, closing dining for the foreseeable future. On the Monday following the storm, snow removal was still ongoing, cancelling classes, and giving students another day to enjoy the snow.

Meanwhile, our Faculty Director (Dr. Colle), who is also an atmospheric science professor and resident weather junkie, used "Nemo" as a research opportunity to better understand the different types and density of snowflakes, which can be used to improve the prediction of these storms in atmospheric models. He observed hundreds of snowflakes under a microscope (above) at the School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences throughout the night of the blizzard.

-Abigail Singleton
Congratulations to over eighty Scholars that received a 4.0 grade point average in the Fall 2012 semester!

Hesitation
- Francis George

Pale and indistinct,
My footsteps appear before me.
I follow them.

A melting pot of fear and doubt
swells within me.
Each step brings it closer to the
boiling point and yet,
My composure weathered each
one with mute determination.

The storm begins to stir, its force,
Felt firmly within my stomach.

Majestic and mighty,
The waves crash strong.
Unyielding and stoic,
The storm chugs along.
Unseen and unheard,
The wind howl and moan.
Biding my time,
I'm afraid and alone.
As I march towards the eye
The storm seems to laugh.
I think to myself,
"Can I still turn back?"
I know that it's safe;
That there's nothing to fear.
But through the storm's laugh,
I cannot think clear.

Step after step the end draws near.
Silence.

Now I am safe.
Now I am here.

JFEW-SUNY Levine Global Scholar Fellows 2013
Raniah El-Gendi
Jenna Leshowitz

Recent Scholar Publication

We are very happy to congratulate University Scholar April Slamowitz, who was recently published in the Journal of Nuclear Medicine on January 25, 2013. April will have her work, that she coauthored with researchers from Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, presented at the Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging (SNMMI) and the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) Conference held at the Grand Hyatt in San Diego, California from February 27 to March 2, 2013. April has also been selected to win the Scholar-in-Training Award by the organization for her work in PET tracking of "Zr radiolabeled immune cells under Dr. Diane Abou at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York last summer.

April is a sophomore at Stony Brook and will be returning to Sloan Kettering again this summer. - Jeremy Marchese
President’s Message

Hi everyone, my name is Garry Lachhar. I am proudly serving as President of the University Scholars Executive Board. As President, it is my job to make the final decision on the many ideas that both the Scholars Council and the general body of the program bring to light. You can think of me as the Judge Trudy (bring in the dancing lobsters) of the program. Or the 9th and deciding member of the Supreme Court. Or any other silly analogy your bright mind can think of.

If there is anything I can possibly do to help you, please feel free to email me at Garry.Lachhar@StonyBrook.edu. I promise I'll answer any question, serious or silly. It’s my job!

COMMITTEES

Last semester, the Scholars Community underwent restructuring and created an Executive Board. Within the e-Board as described in the diagram, four committees were formed to organize efforts in various areas.

The Academic Committee is in charge of offering the opportunity to improve the academic careers of each student on campus. This is accomplished through programs such as tutoring and peer mentoring.

The Social Committee is responsible for planning entertaining events with the purpose of strengthening the Scholars Community and providing time to make new friends and memories. In the past, the Social Committee has organized the Ice Cream Social and the Scholar’s Masquerade Ball.

The Recreational Committee plans athletic activities for Scholars to unwind. Through this committee, you have the opportunity to join an intramural volleyball team or face off against the Honors College in an annual dodge ball game.

The Outreach Committee is the service aspect of the Scholars program. Scholars can find the opportunity to plan service-oriented events in this committee that are focused on larger community involvement. Past events have included a beach cleanup and a pumpkin painting donation for the pediatric oncology center of the Stony Brook Hospital.

Get involved in your Scholars Community by joining a committee! Contact Secretary Olivia Rodrigues at olivia.rodrigues@stonybrook.edu
**Freshman Liaison** Jessica Hundal  
Hi, I’m Jessica Hundal and I’m one of the Freshman University Scholars Liaisons. As liaison, I feel my job is to open a pathway for all scholars to communicate with the E-board. If anyone has questions about what is going on in the E-board or any ideas they want to be brought up during meetings, I would be happy to receive emails at jessica.hundal@stonybrook.edu. I want to make it easier for individual scholars to be able to have a voice in scholar events. And to give a little of background about me, my intended major is Biochemistry, I’m in the Arts, Cultures, and Humanities, and I am a commuter from Smithtown who practically lives in Dreiser!

**Freshman Liaison** Varun Sayal  
Hello readers! My name is Varun Sayal and I am a Freshman Liaison on the University Scholars E-Board. I am from Huntington, Long Island and am a Kelly Quad resident. My major is Computer Science and I hope to minor in Nanotechnology as well. My hobbies are basketball, photography and reading, especially fiction. As Freshman Liaison it is my responsibility to bring to attention any ideas or issues that freshman scholars want addressed. I encourage anyone who has something they want addressed to speak to me. It is my duty to make your voice heard. I can be contacted at Varun.Sayal@stonybrook.edu, on Facebook, or in person.

**Freshman Liaison** Alisa Rybkin  
My name is Alisa Rybkin and I am your freshmam liaison. I am currently attending Stony Brook with a major in Chemistry on the pre-med track. In eleven and a half years, I hope to become a surgeon, but right now, I hope to represent you at the scholars council. I invite all of you to contact me via my e-mail (alisa.rybkin@stonybrook.edu) if you have any questions, complaints, ideas, concerns, etc. In addition, if you would like me to bring certain ideas before the council, I can and will do so. We are a whole new generation of fresh minds and I am more than honored to represent the class of 2016.

**Freshman Liaison** Aiswaria George  
Hi! My name is Aiswaria George and I am from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. I am currently a freshman majoring in Psychology B.S. I am proud to be a member of the Scholars Council. Being in a community that understands the importance of new innovations, connects to Seawolf lifestyle, and recognizes the importance of education, provides me a platform to grow as an individual. As the freshman liaison mediator between the council and the freshman class, I plan to encourage a stable input and output of ideas between the Scholars Council and the Scholars Community. Feel free to contact me by email at aiswaria.george@stonybrook.edu. Thank You.

**Sophomore Liaison** Dana Castro  
My name is Dana Castro and I am a Chemistry major and AMS minor. My UGC is Information and Technology Studies (ITS) and I commute from Holbrook, NY. My responsibilities as Sophomore Class Liaison include keeping the Sophomore Class informed on upcoming events and topics so that as many Scholars as possible can be involved in everything we do. My goal is to get as many Scholars as possible to be involved in our events and programs so that name becomes more and more known on our campus. I can be contacted at dana.castro@stonybrook.edu

**Junior Liaison** Jammie Law  
My name is Jammie and I’m taking this opportunity to introduce myself as your current Junior Class Liaison. I’m a Biology major from New York City. I see my job largely as re-bridging the gap between the our class year and the Scholars program (spoiler: they miss us). One ultimate goal is to strengthen involvement beyond freshman year so please consider providing input to me to let your voice be heard! I can be reached by email at jammie.law@stonybrook.edu.

**Senior Liaison** Katherine Woodford  
Hello Everyone! My name is Katherine Woodford, and I am the Scholars Senior Class Liaison! My job is to keep the graduating class of 2013 informed about all of our Scholars events, to ensure that my year maintains close contact with our fellow underclassmen to help our Scholars community thrive. I look forward to seeing each and every one of you over the course of the year. I can be contacted at katherine.woodford@stonybrook.edu
In October 2011, students in Allison Aldrich’s SCH 101 seminar organized an initiative to increase civility and community-mindedness at Stony Brook. “Pass the Wealth is a concept, a project, and a movement,” as we say on our website, that Stony Brook students have created in order to “build a community of caring.”

Pass the Wealth is an open initiative: anyone who identifies as a member of the Stony Brook community can take part. The primary dynamic, which we call “Passing the Wealth,” is the creation of anonymous happy sticky notes, which are placed across campus to brighten peoples’ days. You can see PTW notes with everything on them from inspirational quotes to beauty tips, study advice to knock-knock jokes. The important thing is that every note carries a smile. The recipient of a PTW note can keep it in their pocket, pass it to a friend, or share it again anonymously.

Our public communications are mainly facilitated through our Facebook Page (fb.me/ptwسبو)، which is organized by three Scholars — Natalie, Mary, and Ethan. We are nearing 150 likes from the campus community and recently we launched a new project to collect digital hugs for Stony Brook. Intrigued? Log on and find out more!

Since the beginning, Scholars have been a big part of Pass the Wealth’s success. We look forward to passing many more smiles and with your help we can bring PTW to hundreds more in the coming year. Wanna give a hand? Find out more at the Facebook page or follow this advice from our introduction there:

*If you're a particularly caring person, or if you feel an urge to expand the movement, help out by writing a note of your own.*
*Draw the PTW on it.*
*Pass it on.*
*Share that smile!*

-Ethan Beihl
Community Week: Monday 3/4/13 through Friday 3/8/13

Community Week is a bi-annual program series developed by a wide range of student groups and campus departments to promote a unified Seawolf Community. Community Week seeks to promote a civil, caring, and inclusive campus community. It includes educational programs centered on multiculturalism, anti-bullying, the art of respect, hazing prevention. In addition, it dwells on disability support resources and culminates in an explosion of campus pride as the community supports the men's and women's basketball teams as they each seek America East Championships. Community week runs from Monday 3/4/13 through Friday 3/8/13. Keep a look out for the detailed flyer of events around campus.
If you have any questions, feel free to stop by N-3071 in the Library and speak with one of the University Scholars Advisors at the following times:

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<tr>
<th>Dr. Brian Colle</th>
<th>Dr. David Maynard</th>
<th>Jeremy Marchese MA</th>
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<td><a href="mailto:jeremy.marchese@stonybrook.edu">jeremy.marchese@stonybrook.edu</a></td>
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1 (631) 632-4378

**Academic Deadlines**

- **March 8**: Last day to process drop-down/move-up for PHY, MAT, and MAP courses
- **March 12**: Last day for removal of “I” grades from the Fall 2012 and Winter 2013 Terms
- **March 18-24**: Spring Recess
- **April 5**: Last day for students to process Section or Credit Change for an enrolled course
- **April 5**: Last day to change a class to or from the Grade/Pass/No Credit (G/P/NC) option
- **April 5**: Last day to withdraw from a course. (“W” will be recorded)
- **May 10**: Last day to withdraw from the University. Completion of form is required
- **May 10**: Last day of class for any courses that are held Mondays through Fridays
- **May 11**: Last day of class for any courses that are held on Saturdays
- **May 13-22**: Finals held for Monday through Friday Courses
- **May 18**: Saturday Finals held during regular scheduled class time
- **May 22**: End of Term; Last day of Finals
- **May 24**: University Graduation Ceremony