



Stony Brook University

DEPARTMENT of GEOSCIENCES

DEPARTMENTAL CONVOCATION

Celebrating the Class of 2026

Friday, May 22, 2026

Earth and Space Sciences Building

1:30 PM



Program

Welcome: Professor Timothy Glotch

Presentation of Undergraduate Degrees and Awards:
Professor Hanna Nekvasil and Professor Marine Frouin

Undergraduate Excellence in Teaching Award:
Gabriel O'Donnell and Mark Doucet

Myron Fuller Award: Zoë Briksza
For outstanding Senior(s) in Geology and/or Earth Space Sciences.

Oliver Schaeffer Award: Evan Iervolino
For academic performance, research, and departmental service, in honor of the Department's founder.

Oliver Schaeffer Endowed Scholarship: Ophelia Burden and Laila Elbaroudy
This scholarship recognizes academic achievement and aspiration exemplifying the vision of the Department's founder. Endowment established by Professor Robert Warasila (PhD '76) and the George Schaeffer Family and continues to be supported by other generous donors.

Outstanding Service Award: Gabriel O'Donnell
For outstanding service to the Geosciences Department.

Speaker Introduction: Professor Timothy Glotch

Salute to Graduates: Dr. Andrew Au (Ph.D. '84)

Presentation of Graduate Degrees and Awards: Professor Joel Hurowitz

Graduate Excellence in Teaching Award: Andrew Groh and Gary Kuang

David E. King Field Work Award: Vanessa Alfonso and Roheyatou Ceesay
Made possible by donations from David E. King (MS '84)

The Far Beyond Award: Eashan Das
For exceptional voluntary service that significantly enhances the quality of the Geosciences undergraduate learning experience, research mission, or Department operation.

Closing Remarks: Professor Timothy Glotch

Undergraduate Degree Candidates

Bachelor of Arts – Earth and Space Sciences

Niamh Amitrano

Britney Shanee Williams

Bachelor of Arts – Earth and Space Sciences Education Track

John Emmel

Samantha Ficarelli

Bachelor of Science – Geology

Yatharth Bahl, Magna Cum Laude

Zoë L. Briksza, Magna Cum Laude

Ellyse Davis

Mark Doucet

Emma Felt, Cum Laude

Evan Christopher Iervolino*, Cum Laude

****double major (Geology, Earth and Space Sciences Education Track)***

Nicoletta Labita

Gabriel O'Donnell, Cum Laude

Jack Schaffer

Graduate Degree Candidates

Master of Arts in Teaching Earth Science

Regan St. Clair

Doctor of Philosophy – Geosciences

Eashan Das

Leonard Flores-Andrade

Yang Gao

Reed Hopkins

Olive Koren

Connor Tinker

Prashani Amoditha Ulapane



Dr. Au received his BS in Physics at the University of Hawaii at Manoa in 1975, his MS in Physics at Arizona State University in 1978, and his Ph.D. in Earth & Space Science at Stony Brook in 1984. After a one-year postdoctoral fellowship at the Carnegie Institution for Science, he consulted NASA Goddard Space Flight Center on geodynamics, space-borne geophysics, and space geodesy as a contractor for two decades. He returned to academia in 2006 as Professor of Mathematics and Assistant Program Chair at University of Maryland Global Campus. After his retirement in 2020, he stayed on as Adjunct Professor working part-time.