Greetings Scholars!!

Welcome back to another exciting semester!! Since our last newsletter, the new Scholars Fellows class has been selected, so congratulations to them! Meanwhile, the committees and Scholars Council have been hard at work planning activities for this semester, which include looking into a trip to NYC and the end-of-the-year banquet. I would like to thank the outreach committee’s effort in organizing a very successful Valentine’s Day card and banner making event for two different units in Stony Brook Hospital. This semester we have two very informative panel events for those interested in research and medical school, and we plan to return to Camp Pa-qua-tuck at the end of April to help with their spring cleaning. More activities are being planned, so I thank all Scholars involved for their energy and dedication, and I look forward to seeing many of you at these events.

Best Wishes,

Dr. Brian Colle  
University Scholars Faculty Director

Greetings Scholars:

Welcome back to Stony Brook for the Spring 2014 semester! University Scholars are an amazing group of students and we are really impressed by your accomplishments. We want you to let us know more about those achievements and accomplishments—research, internships, honors and awards, leadership positions on or off campus as well as admission to post-baccalaureate programs like grad school, medical school, law school and anything else you’re doing. This information helps us to nominate you for various awards and to connect you to additional opportunities. So please feel free to drop by our offices or e-mail us with updates on what you’ve been doing. We look forward to hearing from you. Good luck and have fun with your classes this semester!

Warm regards,

Dr. David Maynard  
University Scholars Advisor
On February 10th the University Scholars’ Outreach Committee held the first for-credit event of the semester: Cards for a Cause. Over sixty students gathered in SAC Ballroom A to make Valentine’s Day cards and a banner for the children of the Pediatric Oncology unit in the Stony Brook University Hospital. Using the multitude of student donated art supplies, we were able to complete 142 cards – 100 cards above quota! In addition, we teamed up to complete a six foot banner that was signed by the attendees, and the Scholars Council. The banner was hung in the Pediatric Oncology Clinic where it spread the love to the many children who had to come in for therapy on and around Valentine’s Day. Of the 132 cards, half went to the outpatient Pediatric Oncology Clinic and half to the inpatient Pediatric Oncology unit of the Stony Brook University Hospital. Child Life specialist, Lauren Sharaby, sends huge thanks to the Scholars for putting smiles on the kids’ faces.

After sending off the cards and banner, the Scholars Council made a decision to utilize the remaining donations of art supplies towards our Roth Regatta boat. Thus, the donations have been passed on to the Social Committee for future use.

Thank you to everybody who was able to attend and sign the banner! We truly made a difference in many tiny lives.

~Alisa Rybkin and Maddie Massa, Outreach Committee Co-chairs
University Scholars Program Welcomes Newest Fellows

Toward the middle of the Fall 2013 semester, the University Scholars Program began accepting applications for the newest cohort of Undergraduate College Fellows. With 66 applicants (the highest number ever), the already difficult task of selecting 18 freshmen to join the program was made even more challenging. This was the first year that all of the SCH Fellows were selected by the University Scholars Team; the pool of applicants was extremely impressive. After taking part in a group interview in late November, 18 exceptionally well-qualified students were invited to join the program. The new Fellows represent a wide range of majors and interests, and are very excited to jump into their role as mentors to the freshmen who will be joining the University Scholars Program in Fall 2014. Good luck, Fellows, and welcome to the Team!  ~Jeremy Marchese
Professor Harold James Quigley Jr. grew up loving the outdoors. His appreciation was planted by the seeds of camping and hiking trips, but later as these seeds stemmed, as he organized an air pollution protest during the first Earth Day and joined the Peace Corps to volunteer in Micronesia. Moreover, Professor Quigley’s expertise in urban and regional planning, energy management, and environmental policy was cultivated from his enthusiasm for the natural world. Professor Quigley thinks it is all about “finding something you feel motivated about” and meeting people with the same passions.

Professor Quigley believes encountering pivotal opportunities in his life was about him being in “the right place” at “the right time.” But he uses the expression of “making your own luck” as a caveat to this, for he would not have stumbled across these opportunities without “putting” himself on the right path. While doing research and working on his dissertation on municipal solid waste (MSW), he wrote an opinion piece for a student newspaper. He argued in favor of recycling in lieu of trash incineration. Someone told him he should attend a local city hall meeting, since there was a forum about MSW. Quigley attended the meeting and voiced his opinion. After the meeting, someone approached him with a business card. What happened next is what Professor Quigley regards as a “tremendous learning experience” and a privilege that blew him away. This opened a door for Quigley to work with Barry Commoner, a leading ecologist and a founder of the Modern Environmental Movement, at Queens College, CUNY.

Prior to joining the Sustainability Studies program at Stony Brook University, Professor Quigley also worked as the Director of the Center for Sustainable Energy at Bronx Community College, CUNY, where he developed renewable energies and more efficient transportation. He was also Director of the New Jersey Higher Education Partnership for Sustainability and professor at Portland State University and Ramapo College of New Jersey.

Now as the faculty director of the Environmental Design, Policy, and Planning major (EDP) at Stony Brook, Quigley teaches courses like The Built Environment, Introduction to Sustainability Studies, and American Environmental Politics. He describes his experience at Stony Brook as “a lot of fun and a real challenge.” Even though the EDP major is in its infancy, Professor Quigley states that enrollment has increased. He expresses the EDP major as “perfectly suited to getting students trained to be prepared for challenges,” like acid rain, pollution, and reliance on fossil fuels. Quigley says EDP focuses on finding alternatives to the more than likely grim future, where climate change continues to “wreak havoc on human settlements,” jeopardizing our vulnerable infrastructure and agricultural systems.

Climate change and how we decide to address it, Quigley discusses, is the “most profound challenge” for our generation. He notes how “we all want electrical power,” but the fact is that the fossil fuel business represents one of the most powerful economic engines around the world. Our generation will have to look at different sources of energy to decrease our reliance on coal and foreign oil, but this doesn’t have to come at a price, Quigley says. We can employ “millions of people” in the installation and maintenance of solar panels. Solar and wind energy markets have picked up momentum, something he says “we couldn’t picture ten years ago.” Professor Quigley is very passionate about the controversial topic of geoengineering, where people use a reactive philosophy instead of a proactive one in order to “capture” carbon dioxide. Professor Quigley says this is only a “technical quick fix” and wants students to be aware of this debate, for it will be a defining question of our generation. Will we try to sequester more and more greenhouse gases, or will we try to find ways to prevent them from entering our atmosphere in the first place?

In America, we see a government gridlocked, especially when it comes to climate change policy. Quigley thinks part of this problem rests with politicians who are in “climate denial,” particularly within the Republican Party. However, Quigley thinks “money talks,” and big businesses that have already witnessed environmental problems, like water pollution, largely impact their commerce, and will continue to do so.

Despite that our federal government is currently struggling with partisanship, individuals and institutions have still helped to make a difference nevertheless. Professor Quigley regards Stony Brook’s campus as one making great strides in sustainability, including recycling efforts, efficient transportation, and a power supply that uses cogeneration. Quigley discusses how we have seen individuals change their habits, like adopting more sustainable diets, and opting for reusable bags and water bottles. After all, “it all starts with small steps.”

~Taylor Brant
Kenneth Myers is a year away from his graduation from Stony Brook University yet has accomplished more than most students. After only a ten-minute interview with this young man, his amazing intelligence and altruism become difficult to ignore.

Growing up in Wading River, a town east of the main campus, attending Stony Brook was an easy decision for Ken to make. Its nearness to home and affordability made SBU a convenient campus for him to thrive and learn.

After switching his major various times, Ken has invested himself in a double degree of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering. He is currently in his fourth out of a total of five years here at Stony Brook. And those four years have kept him busy to say the least.

Starting his college career as a commuter student, Ken has taken strides to immerse himself in the campus culture and activities. While maintaining a clear focus on his academic prosperity, Ken has found the time to participate in Scholars Council and student government virtually every year he has been a Seawolf. He has also been a commuter assistant, an office assistant, a resident assistant, an Orientation Leader and perhaps his most impressive position: secretary of ASBO (Alternative Spring Break Outreach).

ASBO is a student run organization with community service at its core. The program travels to a new location each spring break to extend outreach to places in need. In the past they have traveled to Alabama for tornado relief and Louisiana for Gulf Coast restoration and erosion prevention among other places. Ken explained that this year he and other members will be traveling to Colorado for flood relief efforts.

On top of this behemoth workload Ken has been involved as an assistant researcher for Professor Trevor Sears. The research he conducts is mainly in gas phase molecular dynamics. He focuses on graphical programming that uses real world data to create programs that analyze gas absorbance. Ken has attributed his success to Prof. Sears of the Physical Chemistry Department, Prof. Joseph Lauher of the Organic Chemistry Department and Prof. Susan Oatis who directs the physical chemistry labs. All have acted as mentors during his studies as a Chemistry and Chemical Engineering double major.

Reflecting back on his time here as it nears its end, Ken offers this advice to younger students: “Expose yourself to as much as possible.” He has stressed the importance of getting involved in a vast array of school activities with the effort of finding something that triggers a spark of intrigue. He himself having switched his major many times is still surprised at where his college career has led him.

So what are Ken’s plans after graduation? Well currently he is looking for internships, with the hopes of possibly going to Graduate School, or getting his Ph.D., or maybe even becoming a high school teacher! Whatever the future holds, it is clear that Kenneth Myers will find success and learning in all he does.

~Casey Pinner
You are my roommate. Let us examine that word for a moment. Prefix, room: we live in the same area together. Suffix, mate: you are my friend. So, you are a friend whom I happen to live in the same bedroom with. Is that clear?

I would like to now consider the word share. It is what we are supposed to be doing in this room, as roommates. Shall we use it in a sentence? “You and I share the room A35B. We share the room equally.”

Next, allow me to introduce respect. In fact, there is a whole song about this word. You probably have not heard it. It means to have or show regard for. As Aretha Franklin once beautifully said, “R-E-S-P-E-C-T, find out what it means to me.”

They say you learn something new every day, well, here is your lesson. Now, like any good student, take these lessons and apply them elsewhere and where they seem relevant. Hint: what better place to start than in the comfort of your room?

Now that you’re here, you know what? Here, take my candy wrappers. I’ll leave them on the bed for you, right by your pillow. Oh, and that t-shirt I like of yours so much, I’m going to wear it, not tell you, and then leave it wrinkled on the ground when I’m done. It looked so nice on you, I figured I would try it on. It’s a little snug, but fear not, I won’t stretch it. And, don’t worry about getting your work done tonight, I’m going to have my friends over until 4:00am. Not like you need to study anyways, you are smart. We’re going to have a small dance party in the room and sing at the top of our lungs probably. Come join us, it will be great. All for you, Roomie. Aren’t I just so kind and considerate? Giving you candy, complimenting your clothes, and bringing over my friends to entertain you. You’re so lucky to have me.

Don’t worry about having trouble sleeping, Roomie. I can help you out with that one! I will just turn on the perfect sleeping music for you. I’ll put it at just the right decibel; I think that of a rock concert should suffice, setting just the right mood. As for the music selection, tonight’s specialty is hard rap, of course! The way that T-Pain, Drake, Jay-Z, Eminem and all of the other wonderful artists lyrically rap their way through the heavy backbeats, rhymes, electronic noises, and strong pumping bass is just so soothing. It will definitely put you right to sleep. In addition, I will make sure you have good sleep lighting. The highly fluorescent ceiling lamp will be in the on position, able to reflect off of the pristine, white bedroom walls, creating an ambience of white light. Your tired eyes will just drift right into slumber.

Since I’m so nice to you, you won’t mind the large wad of hair I left in the shower for you. That doesn’t gross you out, I’m sure, because you always leave a nice pile in the corner for me. You got it, right? Thanks, you’re the best. Oh, the toothpaste on the countertop needs cleaning too while you’re at it, if you can. I’m so glad we’re on the same page.

Don’t wait up for me, Roomie, I’ll be home quite late. But, no worries, I’ll be sure to make as much noise as I can when I walk in so that you can wake up and know I’m safe and sound. See you in a few hours!

Love you roomie!

P.S. I’m moving out.

~April Slamowitz
All University Scholars are encouraged to take advantage of their exceptional Advisors: Faculty Director Dr. Brian Colle, Advisor Dr. David Maynard, and Advisor and Senior Staff Assistant Jeremy Marchese. From academic planning to research to general advice, the University Scholars Advisors are an invaluable resource to students. Students can schedule an appointment with an advisor or visit during their posted office hours that can be found both below and at the University Scholars website.

**Brian Colle**  
brian.colle@stonybrook.edu  
Thu: 10:00am-12:00pm  
Fri: 11:00am-1:00pm

**David Maynard**  
david.maynard@stonybrook.edu  
Tue: 2:00pm-4:00pm  
Wed: 2:00pm-4:00pm  
Thu: 2:00pm-4:00pm

**Jeremy Marchese**  
jeremy.marchese@stonybrook.edu  
Mon: 1:00pm-4:00pm  
Tue: 10:00am-12:00pm  
Thu: 2:00pm-4:00pm  
Fri: 10:00am-12:00pm

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**Upcoming Events:**  
*Click on each event for more details!  
Bold event titles are For-Credit. Note that For Credit events can have certain conditions in addition to attendance.*

- **Mar. 4**  
  **Research Panel**  
  6:00pm-7:30pm  
  SAC B

- **Mar. 5**  
  **The Riddle of the Labyrinth**  
  1:00pm-2:00pm  
  Wang Lecture

- **Mar. 10**  
  **Austin Unbound**  
  7:00pm-10:00pm  
  SAC Aud

- **Mar. 10**  
  **Feminism Ain’t Just for Women**  
  8:00pm-9:30pm  
  TCACH

- **Mar. 12**  
  **Scholars Council**  
  1:00pm-2:00pm  
  SAC 306

- **Mar. 26**  
  **Spring Commons Day (required for freshmen)**  
  12:45pm-2:15pm  
  Staller

- **Apr. 9**  
  **Scholars Council**  
  1:00pm-2:00pm  
  SAC 306

- **Apr. 15**  
  **Medical School Panel**  
  7:00pm-9:00pm  
  Wang Lecture Hall 2

- **Apr. 21-25**  
  **Earth Stock**

- **Apr. 22**  
  **Earth Day**  
  ALL DAY

- **Apr. 22**  
  **Scholars Music Showcase**  
  8:00pm-10:00pm  
  TCACH

- **Apr. 28**  
  **End of Year Banquet**  
  7:30pm-9:30pm  
  SAC A

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**Academic Deadlines:**

- **Mar. 7**  
  Last day to drop-down/move-up for selected PHY, AMS, MAT, and MAP courses.

- **Mar. 12**  
  Last day for removal of Incomplete grades from the Fall 2013 and Winter 2014 Terms

- **Mar. 17-23**  
  Spring Recess

- **Mar. 24**  
  Students can begin to submit major/minor changes effective Summer/Fall 2014

- **Apr. 4**  
  Last day to change a class to or from Grade/Pass/No Credit (GPNC)

- **Apr. 7**  
  Advanced registration tentatively set to begin for Summer and Fall 2014

- **May 10**  
  Last Day of Saturday Classes

- **May 12**  
  Last day to withdraw from the University

- **May 12**  
  Make-up day for Monday-Friday classes due to inclement weather

- **May 13-21**  
  Final exams for Monday-Friday courses

- **May 17**  
  Finals for Saturday Classes

- **May 21**  
  End of Term