



**SPEAKER:** Our guest speaker will be Nancy Tomes, Department of History

**Bio:** Nancy Tomes is an American historian with a focus on the intersection between expert knowledge and popular understandings of the body and disease. She's the award-winning author of four books, including *The Gospel of Germs: Men, Women and the Microbe in American life*, (1998) about the popularization of the germ theory of disease, and *Remaking the American Patient* which was awarded the prestigious Bancroft Prize in 2017, which examines in-depth research into the popular yet largely unexamined concept origin of patients "shopping" for health care.

She's also developed "Medicine and Madison Avenue," a website in collaboration with Duke University Library's Special Collections, which explores the complex history of health-related advertising. Her current research focus is on the history of psychiatry, the impact of the Internet on doctor-patient interactions, and a comparative look at the medical consumerism in other countries.

**Topic:** *"Confessions of a failed pandemic planner"*



### **IN MEMORIAM:**

*This March newsletter has more than its usual focus on obituaries. Sad, but such communications are of interest to our emeriti faculty, as we knew and worked with many of those listed here. This is especially the case as we go back to a time when the University was smaller, and activities and contacts cut across more departmental and disciplinary lines than they have done in recent years. -JTR*

**Don Ihde**, Department of Philosophy

Don was a SUNY Distinguished Professor and one of the first members of the Department of Philosophy. He was chair of the department and then Dean of the division of Humanities and under his lead the department grew until it reached 26 faculty members. He was the founder of Postphenomenology, a movement of continuing influence that turns phenomenology's attention to technoscience, which he was the principal force shaping the contemporary world. His lead helped turn the Department's

focus on continental philosophy when this was not the usual course of U.S. departments. He wrote over two dozen books and continued to publish and attend conferences into his 80s. He supported a department lecture series on technoscience and “We will not see his like again.” (Written by Bob Crease)

**Joseph A. Tursi**, Department of European Languages

Jo Tursi may not have “emeritus” status in the technical sense, but he was an early member of the faculty and, in his fields of interests, both an influential and an inspiring colleague. Before coming to Stony Brook in 1966 he was already active in the teaching of foreign languages in LI high schools. At Stony Brook he served as chair of the Italian and French Department and director of the Foreign Language Teacher training Program. He helped found the Center for Italian studies (1985) and authored the popular textbook, *Oggi in Italia*. After leaving Stony Brook he served as chair of the Suffolk County Human Rights Commission and received various awards that showed his impact in education (especially pushing for the teaching of foreign languages in the public schools) and political areas of wide impact within our community.

**Armen Zemanian**, Department of Electrical Engineering

Armen Zemanian joined the Department of Electrical Engineering, in the College of Engineering, in 1962. This was the time when the departments were making their move from the Oyster Bay temporary campus to Stony Brook, and The College of Engineering was among the first units to have a graduate program. By the time of his retirement Zemanian had authored several books, some 150 articles and papers, and had been recognized by various international societies for his decades of contribution.



**SAVE THE DATES: (First Friday of every month)**

Here is a preview of our upcoming speakers.

April 1, 2024 – Joseph Pierce, Hispanic Languages, Chair of new Indigenous Studies

May 3, 2024 – Mark Bowen, Physiology and Biophysics



**CAMPUS EVENTS:**

- Saturday, March 2, 2024:           **SBU Men’s Basketball vs Delaware**  
Island Federal Arena: 6:30 PM
- Sunday, March 3, 2024:           **SBU Women’s Basketball vs North Carolina**  
Island Federal Arena: 2:00 PM
- Saturday, March 9, 2024:       **Leslie Odom, Jr. Staller Center presents/2024 Gala**  
Staller Center Main Stage  
8:00 PM
- Sunday, March 10, 2024:       **La Forza del Destino/The Met Opera Live in HD**  
Staller Center Main Stage 12:00 PM
- Saturday, March 16, 2024:      **Rhythm of the Dance**  
Staller Center Main Stage 8:00 PM
- Sunday, March 24, 2024:       **POPS! Outreach Ensemble**  
Staller Center Recital Hall 12:00 PM



**Participate in "Documenting COVID-19: Stony Brook University Experiences"**

Stony Brook University Libraries announced the establishment of “Documenting COVID-19: Stony Brook University Experiences,” a new digital archive project to collect, preserve, and publish the institutional history of Stony Brook University. The archive will primarily be formed from submissions received directly from students, faculty, staff, and alumni that document life during the COVID-19 pandemic. Interviews, first-hand accounts, written narratives, photographs, and more will be

important sources to consult in the future to study, interpret, and derive meaning from this historic time period. Members of the Emeritus Faculty Association are invited and encouraged to participate in the project. For more information, please visit: <https://library.stonybrook.edu/special-library-initiatives/documenting-covid-19/>



## Participate in the Faculty Emeritus Documentation Project

**In return for the light labor of arranging the calendar of speakers I claim the right to be a nag. Each month the SB Emeriti newsletter includes a plea for you to go to the Old Stony Brook memory project on the web site run by and preserved in the Melville Library's Special Collections. To date, only 19 retired SB faculty have filled out the forms designed to let you talk about the early days at SB and your retrospective views, both about what you expected (or were told) when you came and what you now have to say, looking back, on the experience. The responses are an open document and this paragraph is designed to make you feel guilty if you have not bothered to fill out the questionnaire. You can remedy this.**

### Joel Rosenthal

In an effort to document and preserve the unique and varied experiences of the university's emeritus faculty, a questionnaire has been designed to elicit the personal reflections of faculty members':

- impetuses for accepting academic positions at Stony Brook University.
- early experiences on the campus.
- views on the evolution and growth of the institution.
- contributions to departments and to the university.
- interactions with academic and administrative leadership.
- views on the institution's role in the community (local and wider).
- assessments of the university's mission and successes as a research university.

Your participation is vital to documenting Stony Brook University history.

Access information about the project and the questionnaire at:

<http://www.library.stonybrook.edu/special-collections-university-archives/university-archives/>



## Emeritus Faculty Association (EFA) Member Update:



We are looking for new Steering Committee Members! Please contact [Joel.Rosenthal@stonybrook.edu](mailto:Joel.Rosenthal@stonybrook.edu) for more information.

There have been some questions regarding the “Parking Perks” for our Emeritus members. **Please Note:** You are eligible to keep your current parking permit and garage privileges.

The Provost’s Office has updated the EFA’s member list! Below is the link for the updated contact information for all members. Please take a look and let us know if you notice any out-of-date or incorrect information about yourself or a colleague, please contact us at [provost@stonybrook.edu](mailto:provost@stonybrook.edu) with any changes. Please remember, we are **only** using your Stony Brook emails.

<https://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/emeritus/members.html>

Visit our website: To visit our website, go to the University website at <http://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/emeritus/index.html>. It always contains the latest emeritus news (click on "Next Meeting"), a list of members' email addresses, a list of officers, newsletter archives and many other useful links.



*March*  
In like a lion,  
out like a lamb!

