



FACULTY/STUDENT AWARDS

OSI Pharmaceuticals Science Teaching Fellowships Awarded By Stony Brook University Tad Sterling of Ronkonkoma and Gina Zhou of Stony Brook Are Recipients

STONY BROOK, N.Y., September 14, 2007—Stony Brook University has awarded OSI Pharmaceuticals Teaching Fellowships to Tad Sterling of Ronkonkoma and Gina Zhou of Stony Brook. The Fellowships were made possible by a grant from the OSI Foundation and are given to outstanding Stony Brook students who will pursue careers in science teaching and nurture the next generation of scientists.

OSI Pharmaceuticals, headquartered in Melville, develops novel pharmaceutical products designed to extend life or improve the quality of life of patients with cancer, diabetes and obesity. “OSI is delighted to make these fellowships available to outstanding prospective teachers,” said Ann McDermott, Director of the OSI Pharmaceuticals Foundation. “We are investing in our youth and in the future of Long Island.”

Sterling received his B.A. degree in Earth and Space Sciences, magna cum laude, from Stony Brook in 2006, and is now enrolled in the Master’s degree program in teaching earth science. His lesson plan, “Making Predictions: Earth Movements,” uses the Google Earth mapping program and information on past earthquakes to teach middle school students to make predictions on where earthquakes may occur in the future. The data and programming required are provided by William Holt and Glenn Richard in the Department of Geosciences.

Zhou received her Master’s degree in Chemistry from Stony Brook in 2005 and is now enrolled in the Master’s degree program in teaching biology. Her lesson plan entitled, “Welcome to Mars,” takes middle school students through a series of hands-on science and engineering projects centered on a space mission to Mars that teaches the developing nature of science, the interrelatedness of different science fields and the importance of teamwork.

“Tad and Gina are exactly the kind of teachers we need in the schools; knowledgeable, creative and focused on the needs of students,” said Keith Sheppard, Director of Science Education at Stony Brook

David Bynum, Director of Stony Brook’s new Center for Science and Mathematics Education, said that “corporate support for university and school excellence in science and mathematics is an essential ingredient in our country’s educational future. We are deeply appreciative of OSI’s tangible recognition of this.”

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