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NSF AWARDS STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY MORE THAN \$500K IN SCHOLARSHIPS FOR STUDENTS MAJORING IN SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS

STONY BROOK, NY, March 11, 2009 – Stony Brook University received a \$520,000 grant from the National Science Foundation for undergraduate scholarships in science and mathematics. Funds will be used to support outstanding students with high financial need pursuing majors in science, technology, engineering or mathematics. The award is the result of a joint effort of the Stony Brook University College of Arts and Sciences, School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences, and Department of Technology and Society.

"One of the Center goals is to increase the quality, quantity and diversity of students majoring in science and mathematics," said Dr. David Bynum, Professor of Biochemistry and Cell Biology and Director of Stony Brook's Center for Science and Mathematics Education. Bynum is principal investigator on the grant, and a recipient of many state and national awards for his work in science education. "This award is aligned with Stony Brook's long term strategy of providing strong incentives for students to pursue these majors," he said.

These NSF Scholarships will be made available to students over the next four years in a competitive application process. The award will be administered by Paul Siegel in the Department of Technology and Society, who has many years of experience in serving under-represented and economically disadvantaged students who are majoring in science, technology, engineering or mathematics.

"There is a critical national need to encourage academically talented students with significant financial need to pursue these challenging and greatly needed majors," said Matthew Whelan, assistant provost for admissions and financial aid at Stony Brook. "During these difficult economic times this award assures that many more students will be able to do exactly that."

For application and information:<u>www.stonybrook.edu/cesame</u> or contact Paul.Siegel@stonybrook.edu.

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