

GENERAL UNIVERSITY NEWS**Congressmen Visit Stony Brook's Center For Science And Mathematics Education****Tim Bishop and Bart Gordon support programs to attract and retain teachers**

STONY BROOK, N.Y., May 15, 2008 – On Monday, May 5, Congressmen Tim Bishop (New York, Member of the House Education and Labor Committee) and Bart Gordon (Tennessee, Chair of the House Committee on Science and Technology) visited Stony Brook University to learn about the Center for Science and Mathematics Education. They are particularly interested in supporting programs that attract and retain excellent teachers in science and mathematics. The Stony Brook Center, directed by Dr. David Bynum, provides these opportunities and in the past five years the University has graduated over 200 teachers with master's degrees in teaching science or mathematics. The mission of the Center is to provide opportunities in science and mathematics for all, from pre-K to the post-doctoral and University faculty levels.

As stated in the National Academies' 2006 Rising Above the Gathering Storm report there is a growing national awareness that the U.S. advantages in science and technology have begun to erode. The first recommendation of the report was to "increase America's talent pool by vastly improving K-12 science and mathematics education." Stony Brook University, with its rich history of accomplishments in science and mathematics, is ideally equipped to do so.

"Scientific technology and innovation are driving the global economy like never before, and America needs to do more than ever to stay ahead," said Bishop. "Stony Brook University is providing much-needed leadership in this regard through its efforts to enable more American students and researchers to succeed, opening the way for future discoveries and breakthroughs, so America can continue to be a world leader for generations to come."

The following day, Dr. Bynum made a presentation on "Entrepreneurship and Science Education" at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington, DC. The next day Dr. Bynum gave a similar talk at the Rayburn House Office Building, House Science and Technology Subcommittee Hearing Room. The visit and talks highlighted the national importance and interest in creating innovative educational programs for students and teachers in science and mathematics education at all levels.



Congressman Tim Bishop, Joan Kiely (Director of the Biotechnology Teaching Center), Congressman Bart Gordon, Farah Daccueil (graduate student), Dr. David Bynum (Director, Center for Science and Mathematics Education), Delon Callender (laboratory manager for the Center)